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Thursday, March 6, 2008

\$1.00 includes GST

circulation 10,000

County Voice.ca

Haliburton County's Local Weekly Newspaper

Vol 1 Issue 6

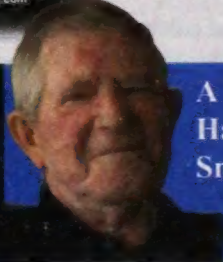
Daylight Savings Time

March 9th at

2:00 a.m.

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hour

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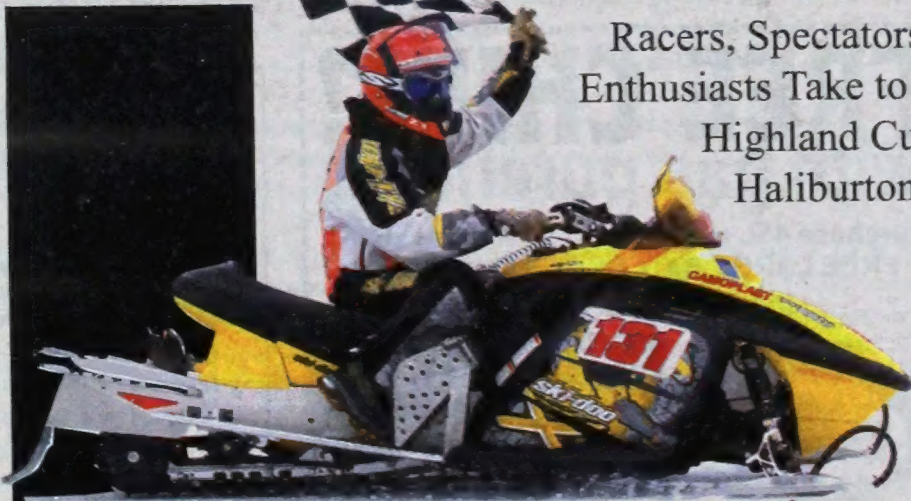
Highland Cup Revs Up Haliburton



Photos By:
Lyn Winans

Racers, Spectators and Snowmobile Enthusiasts Take to Head Lake Highland Cup 2008 Takes Over Haliburton for the Weekend

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter



Ear-piercing, high-speed oval ice snowmobiling racing took over frozen Head Lake in Haliburton, as participants from across North America descended on the track to show off their skills and impressive machines at the Highland Cup. Event

Organizer Harold Foyster announced that a total prize pool of \$12,500 in cash was awarded to racers and their teams.

An estimated 1500 - 1700 people flocked to see the races and festivities, presented by Ski-Doo, over the two-days held from Saturday, March 1 to Sunday, March 2. Races on both days began at 10 a.m. and ran until 5 p.m. Though the first day saw overcast skies, it didn't stop the racers or the spectators from coming to catch all the action.

The show kicked off with the reading of the rules and expectations required of the competitors by Marcel Fontaine, President of the race association for Super Competitive Motorsports. Though the competition began a few minutes late, both the young and the old were in attendance to see sleds reach speeds in excess of 90 miles an hour, plus catch

Highland Cup cont'd... pg. 8...

What's in Store for the Highlands East Fire Department?

Liz Daniels
Staff Reporter

To an outside observer there can be no doubt about the level of dedication in the hearts of the volunteer fire fighters at each of the six Highlands East fire halls. There is also no doubt about the extent each volunteer will go to save life and property. However, there does appear to be mixed reviews on how the department should move forward.

Last Thursday night, the Highlands East Council held a special meeting, primarily to discuss the existing structure of the Fire Department and the strategic placement of trucks and equipment. It quickly became obvious that Council and some of the members are looking at things from a different perspective. In discussion before the meeting Reeve Dave Burton commented that some of department's equipment is poorly situated and could be better utilized in other halls. Burton also said "Despite amalgamation, everyone is still being territorial!"

The Fire Chief, four Station Commanders and a number of other department members were present to hear Deputy Reeve Jim Mackie present information about the geographic location of the fire halls, the overlap in responsibilities and the number of residences served by each hall within a five kilometre and 8 kilometre distance. According to Mackie these 5, 8 and 13 kilometre distances are key factors insurance companies consider when establishing risk levels and rates. Mackie outlined a proposal for placement of the tanks, pumpers and rescue vehicles based on the Powell Report which was commissioned by the municipality just after amalgamation. A new tanker is proposed for Cardiff, a new pumper for Wilberforce and a new tanker and pumper for Gooderham. Other recommendations were made with respect to rescue equipment depending on proximity to areas where there was a high concentration of motor vehicle accidents. Mackie reiterated the Reeve's comments that it was Council's goal to provide the best service possible utilizing men and equipment from all of the fire halls. He also commented on the size of Station 2 (Highland Grove) saying that it was oversized for

Highland East Fire Department cont'd... pg. 2...

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Bancroft OPP Seeking Public's Assistance to Locate Female

On Thursday the 28th of February 2008 Officers from the Bancroft detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police received the report of a missing female. Julia McKay (15 years of age) of Cardiff, the Municipality of Highlands East was last observed on the 28th of February, in the Town of Cardiff. Julia McKay is approximately 5 feet 6 inches tall, slim build, brown eyes, straight brown hair and was last observed wearing a black bomber style Parka and blue jeans. Julia McKay has not been heard from or observed since the 28th of February. Constable Suzanne Cox of The Bancroft OPP commented that any lead from the public would be most welcome: "we've had very little response thus far to our request for information. If any of her friends think they may have any lead at all, we really welcome their help. The public can rest assured that any information given that would lead us to finding her will be in confidence. We have no interest in indentifying any of Julia's friends who might know where she is if they come forward with any information." Constable Cox also wanted to point out that this is not in any way a criminal matter: they just want to make sure the girl is safe. The Bancroft OPP is that anyone who has contact with her please contact the Bancroft OPP at (613) 332-2112 or 1-888-310-1122.

News For Highlands East's Fire Department

... From Pg 1

their needs and costly to heat, proposing that part of the hall be used solely for cold storage. Fire Chief Wingrove commented on the limitations that would result from parking three large vehicles in one section of the hall.

Councillor Suzanne Partridge pointed out that Council should consider the efforts of the volunteers in Highland Grove who have purchased equipment through their own fund raising initiatives. Station Commander Bowen commented on the proposed relocation of their rescue unit which has been at the Highland Grove Hall for 16 years. He spoke of the work his members had put into Unit 204 and of their pride of ownership in the unit. He also said the unit could carry as many as five men in gear, rather than Unit 203 that only accommodates two members and gear. Bowen added that he had been of the impression that Council planned to seal off one or two bays and re-insulate the fire hall, reiterating Wingrove's statements that the other side of the building would be too tight for three vehicles. Bowen stated that the Station 2 personnel should be advised of any possible moves, suggesting to Council that promises made during the election were not being kept. Cam McKenzie commented that there was not one fire hall or station where members hadn't worked or put their own time and money into the equipment same pride of ownership. of the members to keep of Highlands East overall serve all of the people, what is best for everyone

and that all of the members felt the Councillor Partridge then asked all open minds and to think in terms and how their decisions would best adding that Council simply want in the municipality.

Discussion ensued about the between Cardiff and the Highway Wilberforce and Tory Hill and were actually needed, but Deputy Reeve Mackie stressed the need for the halls given the number of residences served in each area. Wayne Galloway from Station 1 commented that he felt it was the Fire Chief's responsibility to decide the best use and placement of equipment. He also spoke of the emotional attachment members had to their equipment, adding that "if equipment is moved there could be big problems."

Without comment on what action or decisions may follow, Reeve Dave Burton thanked all of the members for their input. When asked by the County Voice what Council's next move would be, Burton commented that Council must give the issues raised more thought. He said that more consultation would be necessary with the Station Commanders and volunteers, adding that this might be the first of a number of meetings before matters can be settled.

"Everyone is still
being territorial!"

overlap of coverage 28 station as well as whether all six stations

One Last Bit of Business.....

On the heels of the unexpected termination of their Chief Building Official, the Highlands East Council was left in a bit of quandary. How could they ensure that day to day business carries on in that department? As their last piece of business at the special meeting, Council passed a resolution authorizing an agreement with Dysart et al. Dysart will provide their Chief Building Official and Building Inspector to Highlands East on an as needed basis until the Council has successfully completed their recruitment process and has a CBO in place.

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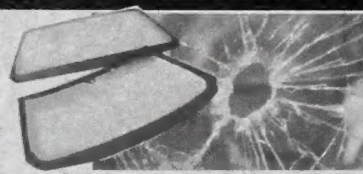
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Monday  -1°C -5°C Cloudy	Tuesday  1°C -4°C Sunny
Wednesday  -1°C -7°C Light Snow.	Fire Rating  LOW

Weather is susceptible to change.

Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers



March 1, 2008

(03 07 09 28 31 43)

Bonus Number (02)

Encore 8101902



February 29, 2008

(05 11 12 14 32 34 46)

Bonus Number (17)

Encore 6091954

These are all unofficial numbers. To confirm a win please visit www.olg.ca or visit a local authorized OLG dealer.

As of January 28, all lottery tickets must be signed.



Weather and Lotto Numbers

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

On March 6, 1899, the Imperial Patent Office in Berlin registers Aspirin, the brand name for acetylsalicylic acid, on behalf of the German pharmaceutical company Friedrich Bayer & Co. In its primitive form, the active ingredient, salicin, had been used for centuries in folk medicine.

On March 7, 1946, actress Joan Crawford, born Lucille Fay Le Sueur in 1905 in Texas, is awarded the Oscar for her performance in "Mildred Pierce." Crawford made some of the finest films of her career after age 40.

On March 8, 1986, "Mask," starring Eric Stoltz and Cher, opens. Cher, who had launched a serious acting career with her appearance in Robert Altman's "Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean" in 1982, received the Best Actress prize at the Cannes Film Festival for her role in "Mask."

On March 9, 1913, writer Virginia Woolf delivers the manuscript of her first novel, "The Voyage Out," to her publisher. In 1941, fearful for her own mental state and afraid of the coming world war, she filled her pockets with rocks and drowned herself.

On March 10, 1876, the first discernible speech is transmitted over a telephone system when inventor Alexander Graham Bell summons his assistant in another room by saying, "Mr. Watson, come here; I want you."

On March 11, 1888, in one of the worst blizzards in U.S. history, New York City grinds to a near halt, with elevated trains blocked by snow drifts and unable to move. Up to 15,000 people were stranded on the elevated trains.

On March 12, 1969, the London drug squad appears at the house of Beatle George Harrison and wife Pattie Boyd with a warrant and drug-sniffing canines. Sergeant Norman Pilcher, the man behind the raid, was convicted of planting drugs in other cases and went to jail in 1972.

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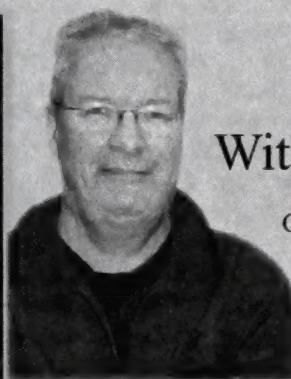
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County Voice

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

By Stephen Patrick

With God on Our Side



Once again local, provincial, and national politicians are rekindling the old debate about religion, public policy, "tradition" and the right, or duty, of the state to attempt to legislate private and public morality. With the introduction of an amendment to Bill C-10 (the Income Tax Act) the federal Conservatives have laid down the gauntlet to the powerful arts, film and culture lobbies. This amendment in essence would allow the federal government to deny tax credits to proposed film and television productions that someone, perhaps Heritage Minister Josee Verner, perhaps some committee, deem to be offensive and "contrary to public policy".

It's hard to imagine an adult film these days that doesn't deal with at least some themes that some people find offensive. Mel Gibson's blood and gore epic of a few years ago, *The Passion of the Christ*, managed to offend millions, including significant numbers of Christians. Yet millions more Christians absolutely loved it: in our Haliburton Community local church groups organized screenings for those who couldn't make it to the big screen theatres in bigger centres.

This proposed amendment was allegedly promoted, if not actually written, by arch conservative and evangelical lobbyist Charles McVety, the President of the Canada Family Action Coalition. "We're thankful that someone's finally listening," he said yesterday. "It's fitting with conservative values, and I think that's why Canadians voted for a Conservative government," said McVety. "Films which promote homosexuality, graphic sex or violence, should not receive tax dollars."

The government, for its part, denies that McVety played any significant part in its decision, and says it only wants to shut down films that include "extreme violence and child pornography". And as always, the question is who decides: who's the censor in this game, who holds the power? Because power it is, big time.

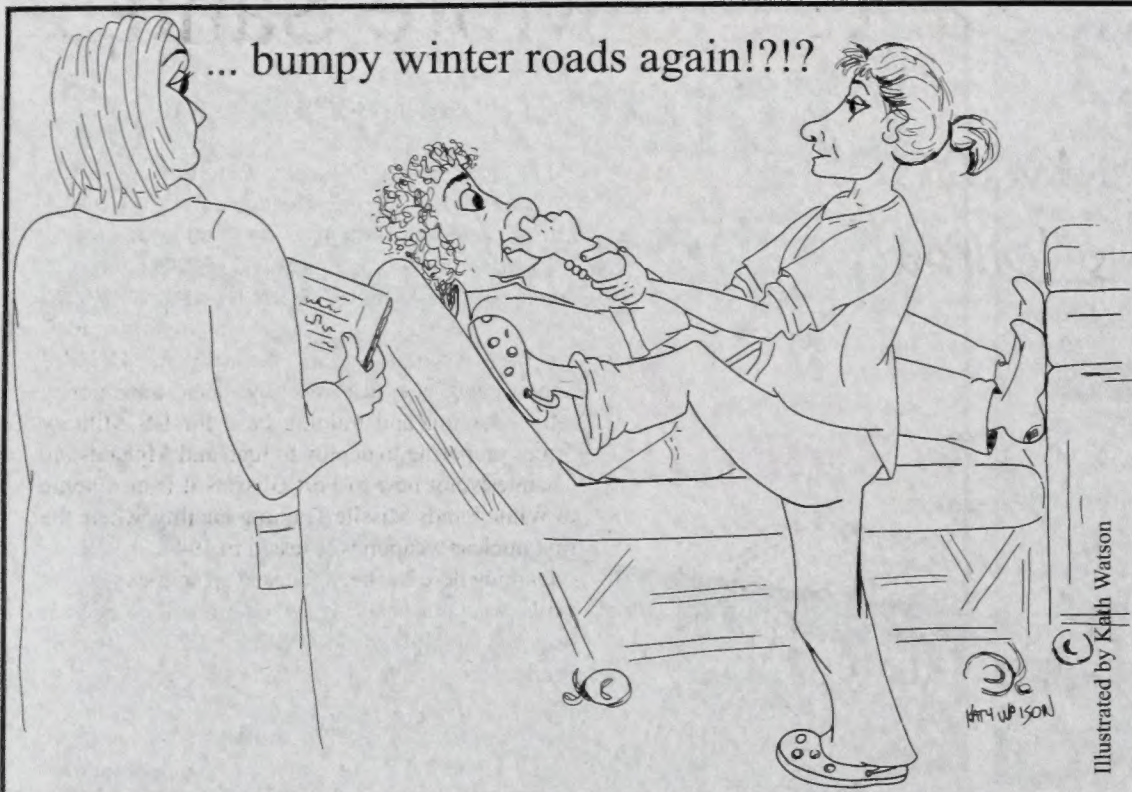
As well, this past few weeks saw the Lord's Prayer issue raised once again due to Ontario Premier McGuinty's musings about replacing the traditional prayer with something more inclusive, and less specific to the Judeo-Christian tradition. Petitions are circulating, politicians are striking poses, and across the County there's a lot of harrumphing going on. But the realist in this writer can't help feeling cynical about the whole exercise. Conservatives of all stripes know they have to cater to the "social conservative, family values" constituency. And so far the feds haven't done much to advance the interests of the Christian right. In Ontario the Tories are still reeling from a disastrous campaign which trotted out the spectre of independent, publicly funded religious schools. Ontario said NO to that, with bells on. The Lord's Prayer issue is a little gift in the Conservative's time of need.

The irony, to me, is that in this community the various Christian denominations are healthy, successful, and broad-minded. Anti-gay campaigns peek out of the snow banks on occasion, but seem to be generally ignored.

In fact, our local Christian churches are intensely community minded, and tolerant. In any event, Christianity has survived much greater challenges than a few skin flicks might present. And can you imagine Canadian film makers making anything that remotely approaches what's available instantly on the Internet?

This week Patricia Paddey, a Christian writer and founder of The Word Guild, wrote in the *Globe and Mail*: "If Christians demand the power of censorship on the basis of our beliefs and values, then we should expect others to claim the same right, on the basis on their own: the last thing Canada needs is a 'Moral Minority' trying to impose their artistic standards on the standards of others."

My advice to my Christian friends and neighbours is simple. Take the politician's posturing with a large dose of salt, preferably from the Red Sea, and rest assured that this community's innate sense of decency and fairness is a far greater shield against the evils that may lurk than any Ottawa bureaucrat or ideologue's deadly hand.



Illustrated by Kath Watson

Dear Editor:

Re: Articles, 28 February: "Mine Workers' Perspectives"

I read with great interest, as I am sure everyone did, Liz Danielsen's articles on the two uranium mine workers who toiled in area mines years ago, and their input to the current debate on whether Highlands East should, once again, welcome uranium mining to its fold. Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Meharrie have interesting tales. I do believe, however, that they are only half told. At the very least, they ignore facts and wind up presenting a distorted view.

Let me begin by saying that I have great admiration for both men. They have lived complete and very interesting lives,

Letter of the Week

contributing much to their community. I have great personal respect for anyone who has ever worked in a mine-related job, particularly those who have done so underground. I had occasion to be deep in the earth twice when I was an assistant to the federal Minister of Energy, Mines & Resources - the 'Giant' mine, in Yellowknife, and Eldorado's 'Beaverlodge' mine near Uranium City, northern Saskatchewan. I also toured the uranium refinery at Port Hope, on occasion, as part of my duties. I much prefer working above ground and away from refinery facilities, necessary though they may be.

It should be pointed out at the beginning that the type of mine referred to by both Messrs. Meharrie and Sanderson were shaft/drift mines working from tunnels dug underground. The type currently proposed by Bancroft Uranium is an 'open pit' mine. There is a world of difference. The latter involves literally destroying the surface of the ground as we know it to get at the small quantities of ore available. What is left after the mine closes is an ugly scar, a deep, open wound surrounded by piles of broken rubble. It is an eyesore which doesn't go away and takes centuries before any vegetation regenerates, if at all. That is what we are left with AFTER all the blasting, dust, noise and milling or crushing of millions of tons of rock during the mining process, something that Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Meharrie did not experience or have to put up with. There is also a well-known and documented danger from uranium tailings; it is significant enough that Health Canada studies at places like Elliot Lake tell us that monitoring must go on for 10,000 years. Why? Because there are increased cancer rates and health risks. The evidence is there. If we do not heed the lessons of history, we are condemned to repeat its mistakes.

Secondly, Mr. Sanderson wishes to convince us that uranium mining must be OK because he has not suffered any medical complications and was never told of any dangers by the mining company when he was a worker in the labs. He maintains there were health authorities that would have known, had there been problems. Unfortunately, in the 'old days' many of the dangers either were not as well known, or were just never revealed. It was only after significant health dangers became noticed that action was taken, and warnings given. Perhaps one of the best examples of this is the asbestos mining situation in Quebec. In spite of very strong unions there, little was known or said until miners began dying all too frequently from asbestosis. Too bad for those whose lives were lost. And asbestos itself continued to be used as an insulating product until health concerns for the general

....Response to "Mine Workers' cont'd... pg 6...

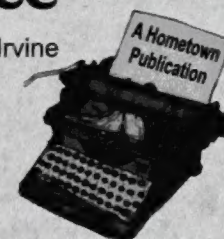
Letters To The Editor Welcomed !!

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Exclusive to the County Voice - Part 6

Sand, Sand and More Sand

The Road to Kandahar *A Soldier's Journal*

by Captain David Beatty

Exercise SOUTHERN BEAR

On 17 February 2008, approximately 200 members of the Joint Task Force Headquarters (JTFA HQ) arrived to link up with just over 2500 soldiers from Task Force 3-08 (based out of CFB Petawawa) to conduct Exercise SOUTHERN BEAR at Fort Bliss Texas. Located on the Texas/New Mexico border, the base is home to the US Army Air Defence School and has just recently been transitioned into a staging and training base for US Military forces preparing to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan. Change is not new to Fort Bliss as it is also home to White Sands Missile Training Facility, where the first nuclear weapon was tested in 1944.

Training here has been focused on soldier survival skills: weapons handling and qualifications, counter improvised explosive device training and live fire training involving tanks and fighter aircraft. For members of JTFA HQ, our second day on the ground started at 0700hrs with a 13 kilometre Battle Fitness Test. For this, everyone put on their 'battle order' and ruck sacks (minimum weight is 56 lbs/23kg) and was under orders to complete a 13 kilometre forced march in under 2 hours 26 minutes. This is followed by a ten minute break and then individuals must carry a fellow soldier 100m in under 1 minute, as part of the casualty carry. For most, this was a repeat of an exercise which was conducted in November. However, our elevation (4000 feet above Sea Level) the sound of fighter aircraft and artillery firing in the background coupled with the heat and the dust added to the reality of our deployment being only months away.

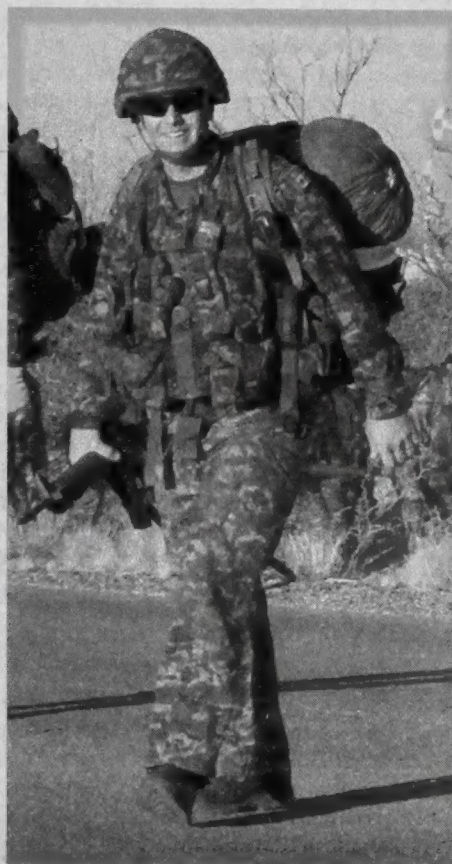
Our next day saw the JTFA HQ on the grenade range, with each soldier throwing a minimum of four grenades each. This was designed to provide a degree of weapons 'comfort' and battle inoculation (sitting in a throwing bay while other people around you throw their grenades over the wall, and getting the effects of the blast and noise of the grenade explosion itself).

Day five the HQ was on the rifle range; all members had to fire, and successfully complete their Personal Weapons Test of the C7-A2 Assault rifle. For those of you who find hitting a moving deer as it runs through the bush difficult, try doing it with 36lbs of body armour, with sand blowing across the range! Again a highly successful day came to a close, with the Commander reminding all members of the Headquarters that personal skill at arms is paramount as you never know when you may have to use it.

The next few days saw the Headquarters involved in planning for the major exercise which will bring Exercise SOUTHERN BEAR to an end. There were also members out undergoing qualification shoots on the 9mm pistol and undergoing training on a US Army Improvised Explosive Device (IED) training stand.

Improvised Explosive Devices have been the largest contributor to the International Security Assistant Force (ISAF) casualties in Afghanistan and Iraq. To counter this, the US Army has established a comprehensive training program, which our soldiers participated in while here in Fort Bliss. After a few hours of lectures on the various types of IEDs, all of the participants go through a dismounted (walking) and mounted (driving in HUMVEES) patrol through a simulated village. With a very heavy simulated IED threat, each patrol finds itself either discovering IEDs and taking action, or getting hit by an IED and having to react. Regardless of the outcome, the drills are practiced continually and at the end of it, everyone has a good understanding of IEDs and above all, know what to do if they find or strike one. Again, this training is designed to save our soldiers lives.

As we commence a new week here in Texas, most people have turned their thoughts from how to get sand out of places you never thought it would get into, to focusing on the major exercise which will start on Monday.



Training In Texas For Life in Kandahar



Pictured top right is Captain Dave Beatty - the man behind the articles!



Re: Articles, 28 February: "Mine Workers' Perspectives"

Letter to Editor cont'd.. From Pg 4...

public made us re-think the matter. Now, we can't tear the stuff out our buildings fast enough. There are increased safety concerns today over the handling of uranium; are we to go on ignoring them simply because Mr. Sanderson was one of the lucky ones not to have encountered illness as a result of his personal carefree days?

Mr. Sanderson worked in a lab analysing uranium ore samples. May I point out that the world's most eminent nuclear scientist of her day, Marie Curie, did the same. She was, after all, the first person to discover the radio-active properties of uranium, to give X-rays their name. She, too, thought uranium was safe; she was known to carry around vials of the stuff in her lab coat pockets. She kept them in her desk drawer, and would pull them out in the evening to watch their pretty colours glow in the dark. She later died of anaemia brought on by radiation poisoning.

Mr. Sanderson speaks of the positive economic influence uranium mining brought to this area in past. He tells us that the Dyno mine once employed 425 workers; I assume they lived somewhere in the area. When the mine closed, what happened to these men? Did they sit at home unemployed? If so, what did that cost taxpayers in UIC benefits? And, if they moved away, one must then assume there was a glut of unoccupied homes on the market. Surely this must have at least temporarily depressed the real estate market. That part of the story is untold in Mr. Sanderson's account. In Uranium City, the town nearly died when the mines closed; the same was true of Elliot Lake. The mines give; they also taketh away. Mining is forever a 'boom and bust' cyclical economy.

There is always a downside which is often worse than the upside because people have come to depend on the growth which disappears. The downside usually affects far greater numbers in a faster time frame than the growth part that was slower and took longer.

Mr. Meharrie also had a good experience in the mine, and has suffered no ill effects of which he is aware. His employers seem to have taken more care to warn him of potential dangers than did Mr. Sanderson's. Again, his mining experience relates to underground work, not open pit mining. He admits that he

**The mines
give; they
also taketh
away.**

wouldn't want to live near an open pit mine. Why, then, would he want to foist such a 'pleasure' on any fellow resident of Highlands East? Mr. Meharrie is all for mining, just as long as it doesn't get too close to him. Perhaps he can appreciate why those whose properties lie next to the area presently staked and claimed by Bancroft are opposed to mining operations near their homes.

Both Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Meharrie claim that the local economy needs a boost; those of us opposed to mining do not differ there. We, too, believe in economic expansion; where we differ is in the methods. Sanderson and Meharrie would bring in mining development at all costs, believing the short term gains are worth whatever long term pain results. Those opposed to the Bancroft mining proposal believe an open

pit uranium mine would be a disaster, both for the local economy as well as for the environment and the health of those in the area.

Mining of any variety is not a sustainable economy; it runs out. On the other hand, recreational economy, tourism, small business, artisans, even forestry sustains itself, renews itself, expands and continues to grow. It does not destroy its surroundings or damage the health of its citizens as it does so. If Mr. Sanderson, Mr. Meharrie and others who believe that uranium mining will be good are successful in this debate, they surely must realize that, at the same time they are handing their children and grandchildren a mining job, they are also condemning them to future unemployment and a depressed local economy down the road when the mine closes, as surely it will the day the ore runs out.

Presently, a large part of Haliburton's economy is recreationally based. I spent several years as an elected MP working diligently to bring new employment to my riding. At one time, in the Fort Erie sector of the folks I was privileged to represent, we had roughly 28% unemployment. A large plant manufacturing steel pressure vessels was shut down; a battery plant closed and moved away; the aircraft manufacturing plant was 60% laid-off; then the local racetrack moved its racing card to Toronto. I had folks coming to my office in tears because the banks were foreclosing on their mortgages. I pleaded for an amnesty, and worked my butt off to find new jobs, new companies to locate in my area. I am no stranger to the need to find new means of economic expansion and improved employment opportunities.

Some of us may have moved here only recently; some come only in the summer and on holidays. We are Haliburtonians all the same. Waterfront property owners contribute 80% of all tax revenues in Highlands East. We add to employment in many ways: in grocery stores and small businesses; at marinas and sporting good stores; at restaurants, hardware stores and lumber yards. Each time a new cottage is built about \$500,000 is brought into the economy of Haliburton through sale of land, labour, building materials, and beyond that in increased tax revenues. If you want to see a downside effect on the local economy, just keep doing things that will chase tourists and cottagers away, like permitting an open pit mine to establish itself while destroying the natural environmental beauty – the one reason they come here in the first place.

I would like to be able to convince Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Meharrie, and any others who share their views that we are all on the side of wanting a better life for all of Haliburton. But, if local officials do things that will cause cottagers to suffer, we will be cutting our own throats. Our local council doesn't seem to believe there is any downside threat to cottage property values because of the possibility of a mine. Have they made any studies? Have they sought out information on property value regression? Well, I have. As well as asking MPAC, I learned the other day of a lady whose property is close by the old Dyno Mine. She appealed her assessment several years ago because she believed her property's proximity to the old mine was a detrimental factor. Her assessment was lowered by roughly 30%. How would Highlands East Council feel if a significant number of cottagers were to appeal and be equally victorious? If it ever resulted in a mass appeal, the local budget would be crippled. Either that, or raise the mill rate, which would only penalize those who lived everywhere else; a no-win situation for all taxpayers!

Last week's 'Voice' contained another interesting article: news that Highlands East Council needs to purchase new fire trucks and a new snow ploughing/sanding truck: \$750,000 for the fire trucks alone, and the cost will have to be debentured over several years. Cottage property tax revenues will help to pay for 80% of those costs, even though most cottagers will likely be unable to benefit to any real extent. In winter, many cottage roads are not ploughed, and thereby are impassable in case of fire. Even in summer, many are so remote that firefighters are only able to be of 'last minute' help, at best. Still, we pay our taxes, even though we get few realistic services in return. Most of the municipal expenditures go to the villages and hamlets: street lighting, snowploughing, road maintenance – none of which takes place on private cottage back roads. In return for our taxes, we mostly get the pleasure of living in a beautiful environment. If Council permits activity such as an open pit mine to proceed, that enjoyment is diminished. There is little reason to want to be here. Cottage properties will not be as desirable, and will likely be sold. Values will go down; assessments will plummet, as will resulting tax revenues. At least, that is our worry, and should equally be the concern of any forward thinking local council. Where are our leaders on this issue?

We elect our representatives to lead us; we expect them to look carefully into development proposals to ensure that they bring the greatest number of benefits to the broadest number of people, without overlooking the needs and concerns of the minority. We expect them to ensure that promises will be kept. Where are our local reps? What have they done, or are they doing, to earn their keep on our behalf? To date, there has been only noticeable silence.

Sincerely,
Roger Young
Concerned citizen and
Vice-president,
Little Glamor Lake Cottagers'
Association

More Letters to the Editor

Cabooses Everywhere!

It was with delight that I received your recent article entitled "Can the Caboose Pay its Freight?" As my husband and myself are proud owners of a CN caboose ourselves, my sister, who lives in your area, thought we would enjoy the article – which we did. However, I believe your source, The Toronto Star, should check its facts a little more carefully before declaring there are 'just three cabooses that remain in the province of Ontario'.

As I've already pointed out, we own one ourselves, which is situated in the a trailer park at Ipperwash. The town of Forest, Ontario also has a caboose on their main street. The Widder Station Golf Course, in Thedford, Ontario also has a caboose on its course, and there is another one on a private lot near Arkona, Ontario. In addition, there is one on a private lot near Ilderton, Ontario. Port Stanley Railway, in Port Stanley, Ontario also has a privately owned railroad, which also has at least one caboose. I could continue, but I think you get the gist of the fact that there are, indeed, more than 'just three cabooses' in Ontario.

I wish you luck in your restoration endeavours.
Nancy Goetz, London Ontario

Fire Chief says "Get a smoke alarm!!"

Dear Editor:

With the shocking rash of fatal fires that have occurred in Ontario this winter, I am appealing to every resident of Haliburton County to drop what they're doing and test every smoke alarm in their home. Right now. If you don't have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas, put your coat on, go out and buy some and install them as soon as you get home. If ever there was a time to take immediate action for the safety of your family, this is it.

Tragedies such as these are the reason the fire service takes smoke alarms so seriously and I cannot overstate their importance. The law requires one on every storey and outside all sleeping areas, but that is just the minimum. The more smoke alarms you have, the sooner you are alerted to fire and the greater your chances of surviving. For added protection, install smoke alarms inside every bedroom. You may also want to consider investing in inter-connected smoke alarms. This may seem a bit extreme, but believe me, if a fire were to occur in your home in the middle of the night and you had no way to reach your children through the wall of smoke and fire, no number of smoke alarms would seem too many. And don't forget to take a few minutes to plan and practise a home fire escape plan with your family. When the smoke alarm sounds, everyone must know what to do.

It is so sad that it takes the senseless deaths of children to make people take notice, but you're listening now. So please, don't think about it—just do it. Every storey. Outside sleeping areas. Practise your escape plan. It's such a small cost and effort for a huge investment in your family's safety.

Miles Maughan
Fire Chief
Dysart Fire Department



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Haliburton Girls Capture Snowboard Crown Ariah Boots Captures Second Consecutive Gold

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Haliburton High School's Ariah Boots rode golden edges on her way to a second consecutive gold medal finish in as many weeks last Thursday at Sir Sam's Ski Area.

Boots finished two runs in a blazing hot combined time of 51.68 seconds to lead Haliburton High Red Hawks to the overall title in the Kawartha Zone Snowboard Meet.

In an anomaly caused by weather, the COSSA Meet was held before the Kawartha Qualifier during the previous week. The Red Hawk Girls placed first in the COSSA meet as well.

Haliburton's Alex Muenzel won silver with a combined time of 54.19 in her two runs.

Fenelon Falls' racer Hannah Rockbrune ran a 55.71-combined time to capture the bronze in



the girls' event.

On the boys' side it was déjà vu all over again as Fenelon's Derek Coulter captured gold once again to lead Fenelon Falls High to the Kawartha District crown. Coulter also won the gold medal in the COSSA meet held Feb 22 at Sir Sam's.

Coulter ran the course in 47.76 nudging out silver medallist Brett Hicks who ran an impressive 48.66 to win the silver medal. Haliburton captured the Silver in the Boys category.

Lakefield's Drew Cote won the bronze with a combined time of 49.4 seconds.

The top finishers will move on to the OFSAA Snowboard meet that was held earlier this week at Georgian Peaks Ski Area.

Haliburton girls placed six racers in the top ten and their B-Team placed third overall to occupy the other podium spot with a Bronze finish.

In other Red Hawk Girls' results: Mackenzie Neumann was fourth in 51:68 seconds; Katrina Chvedukas placed 6th with a combined time of 58.7; Claire Tam was 8th in 58.71; Cody Pringle placed 10th in a time of 60.42; Chantal Cyr was 13th in 61.98; and Laura Kirkpatrick placed 16th with a combined time of 66.28.

On the Boys' side LCVI placed third overall in the team standings.

Other Haliburton High finishers included: Alex Vassos in fourth place with a combined 49.79; Laurie Leblanc was 8th in 50.73; Madison Rallis placed 9th in 51.27; Jacob Woodward was 12th in 52.6; Brian Johnston placed 13th with a time of 53.4; Robby Hicks was 14th with a clocking of 53.61; Brady Hicks was 16th in 54.14; Cole Scheffee placed 18th in 54.64; Kris Guyton was 21st in 56.47; Jeff Kraft finished 23rd in a time of 57.32; and Stephen Nelson was 25th with a clocking of 58.64.

The OFSAA Meet is at Georgian Peaks.

We will endeavor to get results from that meet if deadline allows.

Rumours & Allegations Fly...

We Said It Might Get Nasty!

This week the County Voice was made aware of various rumours, allegations and innuendo regarding the early career and business practices of Mr. Les Hammond, President and CEO of Bancroft Uranium. These rumours centred around Mr. Hammond's arrest in Vancouver some years ago on Obstruction of Justice charges. The charges were directly linked to a business association between Hammond and an Indian financier named Rakesh Saxena, viewed by many to be a reprehensible individual responsible for a number of worldwide financial misfortunes. Research does indicate that further investigation by the RCMP resulted in the charges against Hammond being dropped shortly after being made. Saxena has faced a number of very grave charges, but so far has escaped being convicted of any of them. The RCMP initially arrested Saxena in 1996 in Whistler, B. C. He was incarcerated for a period of time in a Canadian jail but months later was released on a bail of \$2.5 million. To this day he reportedly languishes in self-imposed house arrest in British Columbia awaiting extradition from Canada to Thailand on charges of embezzlement of at least \$88 million. In light of the allegations being made about Hammond and his association with this man, Voice reporter Liz Danielsen contacted him and asked for his response. Mr. Hammond's company has issued the following statement, which we print here in full. The County Voice will continue to follow the Bancroft Uranium story in all its rich detail. Please stay tuned.



Hammond Responds To Rumours & Allegations

Statement from Bancroft Uranium Inc with reference to their President and Chief Executive Officer, P.L. Hammond CA.

Mr. Hammond worked on behalf of an Asian investment banking group managing various projects in telecommunications, mining and financial services on a global basis.

The failure of an Asian bank in the 1990's, in conjunction with the Asian financial crisis, sparked a domino effect that impacted the investment banking group Mr. Hammond was working for.

Certain actions undertaken by Mr. Hammond to preserve the assets of the projects he was managing and to protect the interests of the shareholders were initially perceived as an obstruction of justice.

Once the RCMP had interviewed Mr. Hammond and had all the facts they realized that Mr. Hammond had acted in a proper and professional manner under very difficult circumstances and that there was no basis in fact to support the charge. The charge was withdrawn.

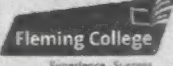
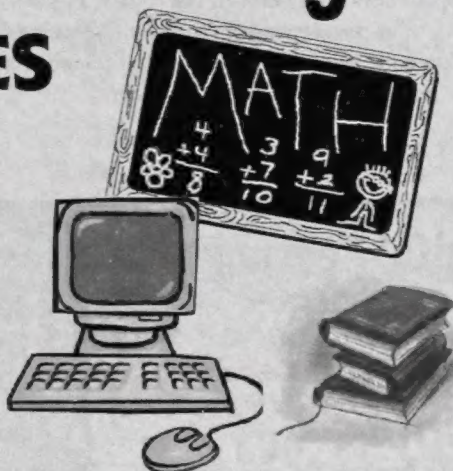
Additionally, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia did an in-depth review of Mr. Hammond's dealings with the Asian investment banking group and determined that there were no grounds to support a complaint of a breach of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

Mr. Hammond remains a member in good standing of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of B.C.

Given Canadians are considered innocent until proven guilty, reporters have a moral if not legal duty to report the entire story – most importantly Mr. Hammond's complete exoneration and his confirmed good standing with his professional body.

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Highlights From The Highland Cup



Jacques Villeneuve Celebrates His Championship



Photos By:
Lyn Winans



Cont'd From... pg. 1...

a whiff of the smoky fumes produced by the high horsepower beasts.

"It's beautiful country here," said Barb Lee who came from Barrie. Her granddaughter was preparing for a race in the 120CC category.

In addition to the high intensity oval ice races, there were several other things for spectators to see and do. The antique Classic Snowmobile Club of Canada was on-site with some of the finest in classic, rare snow machines. One particular booth was at the event to raise

awareness of breast cancer.

"This year we raised \$7,200.00," said Elizabeth Jesseman, supporter of the Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Snow Run, which raised the funds on Feb. 9 at the Delta Pinestone Resort. According to Jesseman, preparations are now well underway for next years run. At the breast cancer booth, people could buy breast cancer stickers at two for \$5.00 and/or stuffed bunnies for \$20.00. A tax receipt was given to those who made a purchase, Jesseman went on to say.

"This is for women with breast cancer who need the financial assistance, like Kelly did," she said of the fundraiser.

Monies were also being raised at the busy food and drink booths that were set up close to the entrance area of the festivities. Included on the menu were hot dogs and sausages, pogo sticks, pizza slices, hot

chocolate, coffee, cider and water. Proceeds of the sales were set to go to the Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre, according to volunteer and Dysart Councillor, Janis Parker.

"I think we need an assembly line for sausage," commented Parker to another fellow volunteer grilling up the food during noon-hour.

Numerous other volunteers were putting in their hard efforts to help keep things running smoothly. "I've been looking after security," said volunteer Lee Train. "There are also a bunch of student volunteers from the high school who have been assisting with security and making sure that everything is safe." Volunteer workers had also been going around to try and ensure that spectators were paying to witness the event.

The weather was absolutely picture perfect for day two, the day of the final races where Jacques Villeneuve of St-Cuthbert, Quebec City, beat the competition to win his spot as this years Highland Cup champion.

"Every race has its own appeal. I wish that next year they'd made the track longer and wider, way wider in the corners," said Villeneuve after his win here in Haliburton. Villeneuve wanted an even larger track so that he could even further push the limits with higher speeds. Jacques Sr., is the uncle to the other Jacques, who is a 1997 F1 world champion. He didn't seem to show any signs of weakness in his races. Just six weeks prior to the event, he suffered a serious injury that caused him multiple injuries to his pelvis, leg and damage to his spine at a sled race held in Eagle River, Wisconsin. Our own sports editor Terrance Gavan, had an in-depth one-on-one phone interview with the champ from his home in our Feb. 28 issue of The Voice.

"For the first two hours, I wished I was dead," he said of the accident that put him in a life and death situation. We asked him if he'd be doing anything special after his Highland Cup victory.

"I'm not a celebrator. It's just another race that's all," said the humble Villeneuve.

Event Organizer Foyster says he would have liked to have seen a better turnout, but was content with the outcome.

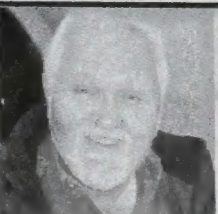
"You've got to start from the bottom of the ladder and work your way up," said Foyster. He has been a follower of the sport for many years: the idea for the Highland Cup began in 2002 when he decided that he wanted to organize a serious event.

"The sport was slowly dying and I decided to put a race on in Minden." This initial idea, however, never came to be because of how uncooperative the insurance company was being, said Foyster.

When it came to spectators who decided not to pay, Foyster explained how disgruntled that made him.

"I worked too hard to let people walk in for free. Why should I work for nothing?" he asked. As for another Highland Cup happening in the future, "Highland Cup 2009 will definitely happen," said a determined Foyster. "This was the beginning of a special event."

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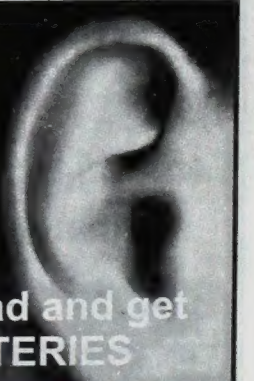
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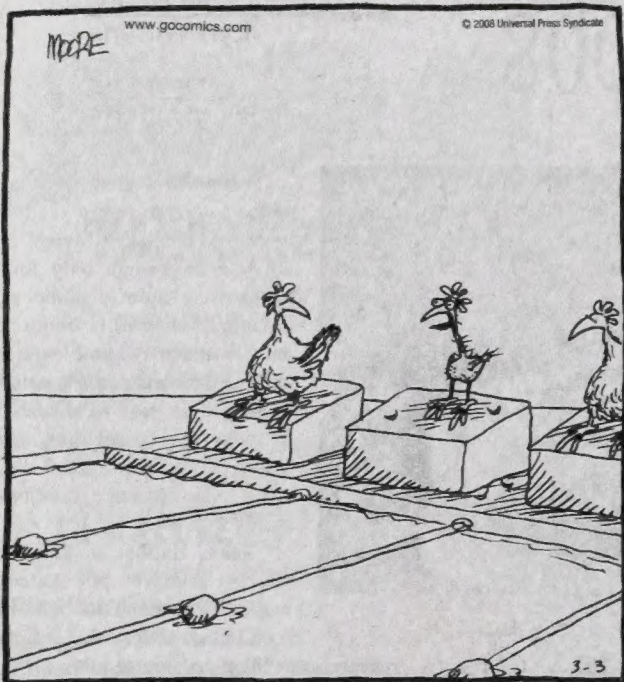
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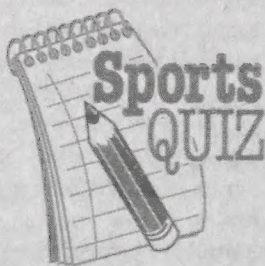
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"I plucked myself. It reduces drag in the water."



1. Name the last time a team won its division in Major League Baseball by 20 or more games.
2. How many full seasons (100 or more at-bats) after he began his major-league career did it take for Brooks Robinson to win his first Gold Glove Award?

3. Who holds the NCAA record for most punt returns for touchdown in a career?
4. Name three of the five NBA teams guard Chauncey Billups was with before joining the Detroit Pistons.
5. When was the last time before 2007 (not counting the 2004-05 NHL lockout) that the Colorado Avalanche failed to reach the NHL playoffs?
6. Petty Enterprises holds the record for most NASCAR Cup championships with 10. Which organization is second on the list?
7. When Maria Sharapova won the Australian Open in 2008, how many Grand Slam singles titles did it give the tennis star?

Answers

1. In 1999, Cleveland topped the Chicago White Sox by 21.5 games.
2. In was after his fourth season (1960). Robinson went on to win 16 Gold Gloves in a row.
3. Texas Tech's Wes Welker (2000-03) and Oklahoma's Antonio Perkins (2001-04) each had eight for their careers.
4. Boston, Toronto, Denver, Orlando and Minnesota.
5. It was 1994, when the team was known as the Quebec Nordiques.
6. Hendrick Motorsports has won seven Cup championships.
7. Three -- 2004 Wimbledon, 2006 U.S. Open and 2008 Australian Open.



Roger Muddies the Spring

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Platonic Advice From a Baseball Scholar

It's spring and that means baseball. It should be a time for fungoes, lofted, lazy and languid fly balls, slow maneuvers on dewy lawns and a return to basics.

It should be a time for players to luxuriate in the moment, remembering why they play the game.

Short hops, turned doubles and soft slides. Spring training is a time to remember youth. It should be a time for fathers and sons to gather and slide into reverie, watching players prepare for another season.

Not this year. Roger the Dodger Clemens has piffled that away.

We can't go anywhere on the manicured lawns this year without some talking head meandering through an infield riffing on the latest in the litany of Roger's crimes and misdemeanors.

My favorite baseball writer, Sports Illustrated's Tom Verducci, has even donated his first spring feature to the many travails of his friend Roger.

Says Verducci about Clemens: "Clemens is unlike any other player associated with the Steroids era. Hundreds of ballplayers have used performance-enhancing drugs. Only a fraction of them have been publicly identified as users. None have gone anywhere near the lengths Clemens has to defend themselves. He even asked to appear before Congress."

Good decision? I go to the source on this one. Plato says, "a good decision is based on knowledge and not on numbers."

Here's what I think about that. I'm sending Roger my copy of Plato's Republic.

If the FBI has their way, it may come in handy while Roger is serving time in a Federal institution for perjury.

Yes, the guys that always get their man are now pursuing Roger for lying to Congress.

Roger has no one to blame but himself. He requested the hearing. He said he had something to say.

"I have some things I want to set straight," said Roger. Here's what Plato said about that.

"Wise men speak because they have something to say; Fools because they have to say something."

Someone else, not Plato, said pride goeth before the fall. Roger is in a freefall from grace right now. "You know Roger," said a teammate quoted in Verducci's article. "He surrounds himself with his own people and has his own world."

Plato knew about people like Roger. "The measure of a man is what he does with power."

There was a point where Roger's power was unequivocal. A string of Cy Young Awards and a mound presence that was absolute.

"Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Roger is living proof of that tautology.

Sports Column

Roger is convinced. Roger is sure that he didn't break any laws.

And to convince people of that, he has sacrificed friends and family to support his own version of events. He told Congress that any HGH in his house was being taken by his wife. He calls his former trainer Brian McNamee a liar. He says his good friend Andy Pettitte is prevaricating in his testimony before Congress.

Here's what Plato had to say about that. "As the builders say, the larger stones do not lie well without the lesser."

The foundation is crumbling and Roger is oblivious. Roger seems to have blurred reality and fact.

Here's what Plato has to say about that. "Good people do not need laws to tell them to act responsibly,

while bad people will find a way around the laws."

Roger is no dummy, but one wonders about his motive.

Plato has something to say about that too.

"Cunning... is but the low mimic of wisdom."

Verducci says about Clemens: "Introspection is not his game. Doubt and those who dare raise it are not permitted. It is a doctrine that helped make him great."

Plato had something to say about that too. "He who is of a calm and happy nature will hardly feel the pressure of age, but to him who is of an opposite disposition youth and age are equally a burden."

And Roger appears to be ignoring the fundamental wrong in this whole screenplay.

It's the youth who we burden with choices. It's the youngsters growing up in the shadows of fame who bear the brunt of this rampant recourse to drug therapy.

Across the nation, young boys and girls are presented with a blueprint. Children with dreams must now contemplate this ugly component. In extreme cases 15 year-olds are being counseled to the needle by coaches or parents. Roger Clemens, Marion Jones, Ben Johnson and athletes of that ilk are pushing the ante, cranking the jackpot and raising the stakes.

Maybe it's time for Roger to step up to the plate. Here's what Plato had to say about that.

"Good actions give strength and inspire good actions in others."

But hey, I'm hearing you. What the hell did Plato know about baseball?

Here's another thing Plato had to say. "Life must be lived as play."

Still not convinced? Here's another.

"He was a wise man who invented beer."

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The Toni Carr Memorial Interclub 2008

Photos By:
Lyn Winans

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Ben Carnochan



There was a great turn out at the Interclub figure skating meet last Sunday, March 2, 2008, even though only four teams were able to compete, Lakefield, Bancroft, Haliburton, and Minden. Three other teams, Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, and Lindsay were unable to make the competition due to the City of Kawartha Lakes strike. (No practice facilities were available.)

Team Haliburton had the fewest number of skaters, but still managed to pull off second place. Every skater from

Haliburton received at least one medal. Lesley Lumley, Tournament Organizer, praised the terrific community and volunteer support. It takes a great team of people to put together this big event and it ran very smoothly and was a great success.

The Interclub banner was won by Team Lakefield with 83 points, Haliburton came second with 65 points and Minden came in third with about 50 points.



Top Picture

Team Haliburton group photo.

L-R Bottom Row: Ainsley Little, Ian Griffin

Middle Row: Casey Pringle, Bethany Little, Molly Thurston, Shyanna Smith
Behind Molly and Shyanna are Jessica Duchene and Shannon McMurray
Back Row: Jen Woollacott, Sandy Griffith, Amber Loney, and Chris O'Mara

Bottom Picture

Team Minden group photo.

L-R Back Row: Shae MacNaull, Alana Bannister, Ashley Cooper, Casi-Jo Barry, Jessica Carroll, Kaitlin Allore
Middle: Ashley Ottawa, Cassidy Garbutt, Callie Dick, Noelle Russell, Naomi Russell
Front kneeling: Courtney Crowe, Jordyn Greer, Melanie-Graves-Howard



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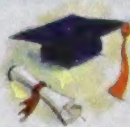
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The Old Victoria Street School - 73 Victoria St
Haliburton. Call 457-3745 and ask for Kathy!





Firebugs Target Trash

Impaired Driver Arrested

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment have charged a male party with numerous offences after attempting to stop a snowmobile late Saturday night in Haliburton Village.

The driver of the snowmobile ignored requests by the officers to stop his sled and after several attempts was eventually stopped on Head Lake in Haliburton Village. The driver of the snowmobile was arrested and taken to the Haliburton Highlands Detachment.

Paul Thorp 39 years, of Dysart et al has been charged with Impaired Driving, Driving with Over 80mgs and Possession of a Schedule II Drug (Cannabis Marihuana).

Mr. Thorp will be appearing in Minden court on May 7th 2008 in relation to the charges.



Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment were called on Friday February 29th in regards to two suspicious fires in the Village of Haliburton.

The first call was received early in the morning and involved a fire that was in a garbage container in the men's washroom in the Stedman's mall in Haliburton Village. The fire caused minor damage. The investigation revealed that a similar type occurrence had taken place at the same location a week earlier as reported in the last issue of The Voice.

Later that morning the police were advised by the fire department of a fire that had taken place in a recycling bin at the rear of JD Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton. There was some minor damage to the outside of the school and the some of the recycling bins were destroyed.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information on either one of these occurrences is asked to call the O.P.P. Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

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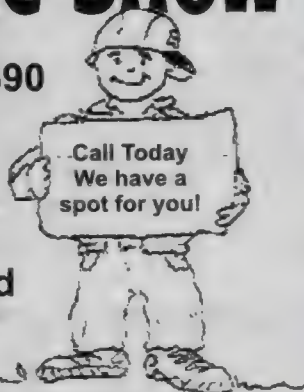
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Red Hawks Finish Season in Peterborough

Hockey Hawks Fall Short in Semis

Young team.
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That's no epitaph; Just a sum; and small pop on a season's wrap.

Haliburton High hockey Red Hawks traveled to Peterborough last Wednesday needing a win.

After dropping a close 1-0 encounter to Adam Scott Lions in the first game of their home-at-home semifinal series on Monday, February 25 at Dysart Arena, the Red Hawks traveled to Evinrude Arena in Peterborough needing a win to force an overtime continuation of the series.

Unfortunately, the Hawks dropped a 4-1 decision to the Lions in a game that coach Ron Yake said was yet another in a string of hard fought contests between these two evenly matched clubs. The Hawks dropped their season encounter 3-2 to the Lions, but Yake said that all of the games were played on panoply of great end-to-end hockey.

"Well, we lost 4-1 but that score was in no way indicative of the game," said Yake, who is still putting in time behind the bench, coaching a triple A team out of Lindsay.

"The score was tied 1-1 with four-and-a-half minutes left in the third frame," said Yake, who was proud of the way his players played.

The Hawks took a costly penalty with under 5 minutes to play and the Lions capitalized with the eventual game

winner on the power play.

Their next goal also came on a man advantage and an empty-netter pushed the Lions tally to 4 with under a minute remaining.

"It was very close and we definitely had our chances," said Yake. Adam Scott opened the scoring in the first frame, but the Hawks rallied and tallied to tie the game at one late in the second.

"We had a few opportunities to take the lead during the third, but we came up just short," said Yake.

The Hawks will be losing a talented crop of senior players to graduation, but Yake said that next year's team looks promising, with a very talented base of tenth graders ready to step up in their junior seasons.

"We have something to build on next year," said Yake.

"As always in high school we lose a few and keep a few, but we have a very solid base of young players coming in over the next few years," said Yake.

As always in Canada and in hockey.

Where there's ice there's hope.

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

Late Hits:
In other Red Hawk action: The Red Hawk Boy's curling team finished with a silver medal in a COSSA event held at the Haliburton Curling Club on Monday March 3.

Sports This Week

Curling

Minden Curling Club

March 9 – Spring Senior / Social - Fun Day

Contact Jim Vincent – 705-489-3589

March 28 and 29 – Sweep Into Spring Ladies Bonspiel

Haliburton Curling Club

March 8 – St. Patty's Fun Spiel

Wilberforce Curling Club

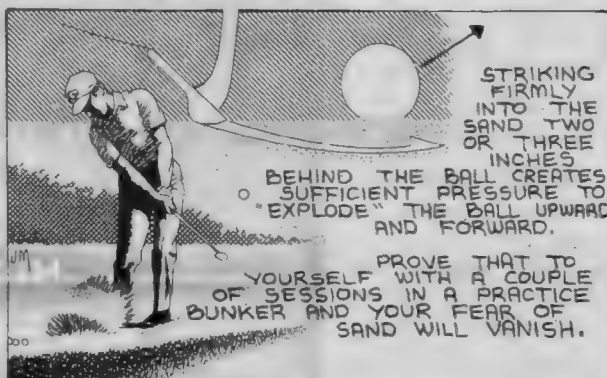
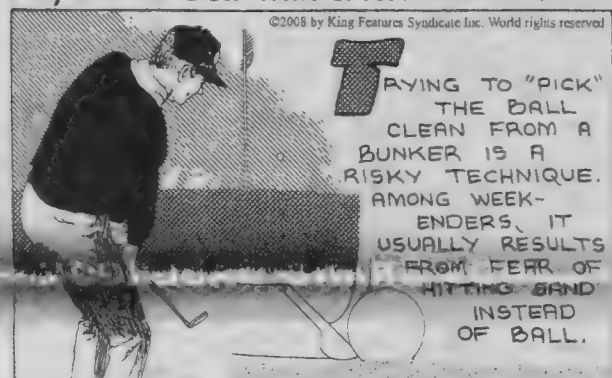
March 7 and 8 – Mixed Spiel

Contact Josef Martinek – 448-9785

March 28 and 29 – Men's Spiel

Contact Daryl Sands 448-9785

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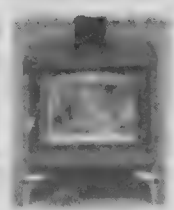
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Local Mosaic Artist Judy Breau honoured by her Peers World Wide

Stephen Patrick
Editor

"This is one of the greatest honours I've ever had," says Judy Breau, a Haliburton artist whose mosaics are held in collections around the world. "And this new magazine is so important because it gives validity to the art of mosaics – we've been dissed so often in the past by critics who can't make up their

minds if what we do is fine art or fine craft. And because mosaics have so often been functional, as part of floors or ceilings of churches, for example, they're often dismissed as art."

The magazine event she's referring to is the publication of the first edition of Mosaic Art Now, the first glossy art magazine devoted exclusively to mosaics. In order to celebrate the magazine's birth, the editors of Mosaic Art Now asked six of the world's most well-known mosaicists to pick 25 favourite modern works of mosaic art for inclusion in the first edition. The jurors were from the U.S., Japan, New Zealand, Britain, Brazil, and South Africa, and chose the winners from over 1100 submitted works from all over the world.

The jurors gave Judy Breau the huge honour of choosing two of her works, one of which, an amazing piece called Antiquity, was the top choice out of the entire 1100 for one of the six reviewers. Her other piece, Animus, was chosen in the top 10 by another juror. These are significant honours in the world of mosaic art, particularly when they're awarded by your peers.

Mosaic art has been around for over 4000 years, first as simple decoration using pebbles and

bits of stone. The ancient Greeks raised mosaic to the level of art by using different coloured stones to make precise patterns and detail scenes of people and animals. Both Byzantine Christians and North African Muslims adapted the art to create elaborate and stunningly beautiful works in their churches and mosques. In the last century, the great Catalan artist and architect Antoni Gaudi, working with Josep Jujol, used radically different materials such as broken crockery and found objects to cover surfaces of buildings and walkways.

Judy Breau first began to create her mosaics when she left a 15-year social work career in downtown



Prize Winning Mosaic "Antiquities"

Toronto after suffering a serious case of burnout. "I was living on the Danforth, which has more than its share of mosaic work and mosaic shops, and one day I went out and bought a book and got right into it. I was brought up in Nova Scotia where my Dad was a stonemason, and I'd always loved stone and hard materials. This is another reason why, when we moved to Haliburton in 2002, I felt so much at home here so quickly: so much rock and beautiful forests."

Judy quickly became a proficient mosaic artist and soon established her own studio, Versatile Mosaics, in Haliburton. She joined the Haliburton County Studio Tour in 2003 and has sold her work to clients from all over the world. In addition to her wall pieces, she also accepts commissions for large installations such as floors, showers, kitchen back splashes, as well as home décor items such as votive candles, trays, mirrors, vases, and table tops.

"There definitely is a practical side to mosaic art," says Judy. "There always has been that functional side." But Judy particularly enjoys creating her arresting abstractions using a wide variety of materials including glass beads, stones, shells, glass, china, even fossils. "It's extremely physical work, and very tactile. I usually have a concept for a piece in advance, but the details always change as the work evolves. I often start with one approach, then another presents itself and sometimes even takes over. To connect so many disparate pieces and textures and dimensions into a finished piece is a real challenge – in a way it's a more complex approach than you would take in almost any other medium."

Judy works daily out of her studio near Carnavon and welcomes visitors, by chance or by appointment. You can reach her at 705 489-4891 or visit her website at www.versatilemosaics.com.

Judy has also asked for the County Voice's help: last fall during the Studio Tour she sold the piece, Antiquity, which was recently honoured. She would like to make sure that the new owner gets a copy of Mosaic Art Now, which of course includes a picture of the work. But Judy doesn't have a contact number for her client, although she remembers that their surname was Lewis, and that they are cottagers in the Cobocok area. If this is you, or if the description reminds you of someone you know, please contact Judy at your convenience.

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Losing An Hour, But Gaining More Daylight

Daylight Saving Time is about to happen, but did you know?

Correct me if I'm wrong, but wasn't it not that long ago when we last adjusted our clocks back an hour so that we'd have an extra 60 minutes in the day? Well, Daylight Saving Time (DST) has crept back around the corner, except this time, sadly, we'll be losing an hour as the clocks get pushed ahead on March 9 at 2 a.m.

This, which happens every spring, seems to frustrate many people. Now I really enjoyed gaining an extra hour. It seemed to add more time to my day and came as a nice surprise. Unfortunately, this time around, I will be stripped of that Daylight saving benefit.

The initial goal of DST was to reduce evening usage of incandescent lighting, formerly a primary use of electricity. With daylight added to afternoons, it is believed to benefit retailing, sports and other activities that exploit sunlight after working hours.

In 1905, it was the prominent English builder and outdoorsman, William Willett, who invented DST while on a pre-breakfast horseback ride, when he realized how many Londoners slept through the best part of a summer day. Willett was an avid golfer, therefore, if he didn't have enough daylight left to finish his round, he got a bit peeved. Then, a light bulb went off in his head and he came up with the whole idea of advancing the clocks for the summer months; a solution that he went on to publish two years later in a pamphlet "The Waste of Daylight". Through intense campaigning, he gained the support of MP Robert Pearce and a young Winston Churchill. Unfortunately, Willett never lived to see DST put into practice. He died of influenza in 1915 at the age of 58. Germany was first to begin introducing the scheme, but Britain was first to finally pass a bill on May 17, 1916, that would allow the clocks to be set ahead by an hour, commencing four days later on Sunday, May 21. The United States caught on to the practice in 1918.

Though DST doesn't do anything in the way of actually making our days longer, it was Willett's belief that it would be beneficial for increasing opportunities for spending time in the outdoors during afternoon sunlight hours. So at least when we go to move those clocks forward, or whenever each of us remembers to do it, our sunlight will stay with us into the later hours of the day. That's one benefit of the switch I'm willing to accept, but I'd still rather not want to bother with doing

it at all. Normally, the change wouldn't register with me until I was reminded by someone else the following day. But this time, because of this story, there won't be any way that I'll forget! Below are some further facts about DST, so read on and find out some stuff you may have not known before.

The U.S. Dept. of Transportation (DOT) concluded in 1975 that DST might reduce the country's electricity usage by one per cent during March and April, but the National Bureau of Standards reviewed the DOT study in 1976 and found no sufficient proof of energy savings.

When parts of Australia began DST in the late winter of 2000, overall electricity consumption did not decrease, but the morning peak load and prices increased.

A 2007 California study found no clear evidence that electricity would be saved by the earlier start to DST that year, and although one utility did report a decrease in March 2007, five others did not.

DST may increase gasoline consumption: U.S. gasoline demand grew by one per cent during DST in March 2007.

A 2007 study estimated that winter daylight saving would prevent a two per cent increase in average daily electricity consumption in Great Britain.

A 2008 study that examined electricity-billing data in India before and after it adopted DST in 2006 concluded that DST there increased electricity consumption from one per cent to four per cent.

Certain businesses are believed to be positively affected by DST. In 1984, Fortune magazine estimated that a seven-week extension of DST would bring in an extra \$30 million for 7-Eleven stores, and the National Golf Foundation estimated the extension would increase golf industry revenues anywhere from \$200 million to \$300 million.

In 2000, the daylight-saving effect implied an estimated one-day loss of \$31 billion on U.S. stock exchanges.

The time change can have a negative impact on people's circadian rhythms (sleeping patterns) that can last for some time. The government of Kazakhstan cited health complications due to clock shifts as a primary reason for abolishing DST in 2005.

Winston Churchill said that it enlarges "the opportunities for the pursuit of health and happiness among millions of people who live in this country."

Arizona (with the exception of the Navajo Nation) and Hawaii and the territories of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa are the only places in the U.S. that do not observe DST but instead stay on "standard time" all year long.

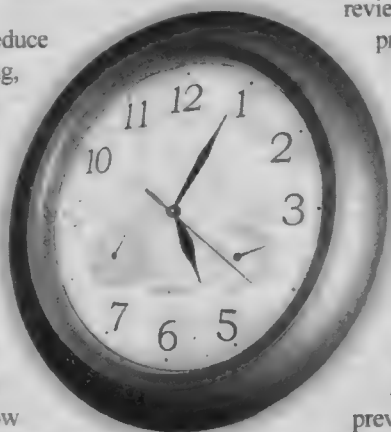
Places in Canada that do not use DST include the majority of Saskatchewan and parts of northeastern British Columbia.

Mexico didn't use DST until 1996.

Most countries near the equator don't deviate from standard time.

In the Southern Hemisphere, where summer arrives in what we in the Northern Hemisphere consider the winter months, DST is observed from late October to late March.

Three large regions in Australia do not participate in DST. Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland stay on standard time all year.



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Minden Hills Council

Archie Stouffer Student Council Meet With Town Council

In a delightful change of pace to Council's routine, Rick Cox, Director of Community Services introduced some of the Archie Stouffer Elementary Student Council. Representatives from the Grade 4 to 8 classes had some recommendations to make to Council about safe routes to school and activities for youth in the community. Cox reported that the project parameters included developing active and safe routes to school, identifying areas in the community that students enjoy and what they would like to see for recreation activities.

"A theatre in Minden would be cool!"

Each student involved in the project gathered information from other students and reviewed the results with their classrooms. They held workshops and conducted tours to look at the things they liked and didn't like and presented their thoughts to Council using two skits as their medium. The students brought a map for Council's consideration which showed preferred routes students travel and key spots they enjoy, making it easy to walk and bike within the community.

During their skits these animated students identified what could be done to improve both summer and winter activities. Some form of public transportation for students was identified as a priority. And the recommendation that topped the list during discussions of where to go and what to do? "A theatre in Minden would be cool!" A full report will be provided to Council at a later date. Reeve McMahon thanked the young presenters, saying how much Council appreciated their input, how very impressed he was with their project and that their message had been received "loud and clear."

New Fees and Charges for Programs and Services

Residents in Minden Hills will be paying a bit more for services this year. A public meeting was held last Thursday to offer residents an opportunity to comment or raise questions on the proposed new schedule of fees. While the list of new fees was available for viewing, none of the existing fees were listed to offer any point of comparison for the public. In response to a question on proposed water rates, Environmental & Property Operations Manager Bob Romberg reported that the increases reflect higher contract rates as well as replacement of lines and hydrants. Romberg also reported that the Ministry of the Environment is pushing Municipalities for full cost recovery of infrastructure costs and that every Municipality must ensure that funds are in place to make necessary upgrades or repairs.

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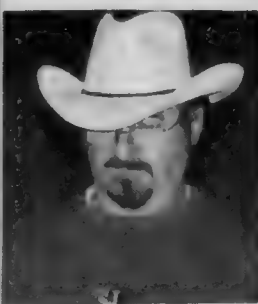
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Environmental Assessment – Water, Sewage & Septage

Algonquin Highlands Council realize they must also consider development of septage treatment in preparation for future development.

Representatives of D. M. Wills Associates from were on hand at Council's meeting of February 28th to provide the results of a water, sewage & septage review they conducted for the Municipality. Members of the Algonquin Highlands Council were also present, given mutual concerns about sewage. Bruce Bonner, from D.M. Wills Peterborough office, reviewed the status of existing systems. He reported that the water supply system was working well and not yet operating at full capacity. Bonner suggested that there may be a need to increase pressure in the system depending on the extent of future development. He provided a number of options including constructing a new tower, increasing booster pumps at the water plant or adding smaller booster pumps at specific development locations. Bonner recommended a new tower with greater elevation as the least expensive option on the long term. He made several other recommendations including amending the municipality's operating permits to allow the use of a second well should it be necessary. An environmental assessment will be required before construction of a new tower.

Bonner then talked about the wastewater system. The extended aeration plant presently operates at 60% of its peak flow capacity and according to Bonner, the municipality has an excellent maintenance program. The consultant's only recommendations were to ensure updated operations manuals and to continue to develop and simulate emergency plans.

A review was also provided of the septage receiving system.

The current plant limits the amount of septage that can be received, and Bonner offered three options for consideration including direct treatment of the septage at the wastewater treatment facility, a transfer facility or a pre-treatment facility. Pre-treatment would involve the construction of a lagoon based

According to Harrison Algonquin Highlands has already spent over half a million dollars on environmental studies and are getting nowhere.

system but according to Bonner the costs outweigh the benefits. He also said the municipality could develop a mechanical pre-treatment plant, but added it would be a very costly option. That option raises the issue of competing with private industry and would also necessitate an environmental study. Bonner suggested that for now the most cost effective option is to continue present operations. There are facilities in place that private haulers can haul to. Bonner also commented that land application options could be pursued. The difficulty with this option is that the Ministry of the Environment has indicated they may discontinue land applications but has yet to establish a firm policy.

Bonner highly recommended Council consider a class environmental assessment of the system. A discussion ensued with Council questioning whether they should consider public/

private sector options in concert with Algonquin Highlands. Algonquin Highlands CAO Lorne Mitchell said their municipality had been searching for the right answer for several years. They presently utilize a lagoon but realize they must also consider development of septage treatment in preparation for future development. Mitchell said if they are to move forward they would need a partnership with Minden Hills to share the high cost of a new system.

Algonquin Highlands Reeve Eleanor Harrison suggested that both Municipalities need to step back a bit. According to Harrison Algonquin Highlands has already spent over half a million dollars on environmental studies and are getting nowhere. Harrison added that one of the criteria of the environmental assessment process is to look at partnerships, something they were more than willing to explore. However, she also advised that her Council would not be considering any substantial budget amount for this fiscal year. Council supported Bob Romberg's suggestion Council meet with representatives from the Ministry to get some clarifications and discuss their options as well as exploring a joint venture with Algonquin Highlands and working with private industry. Bonner commented on the difficult of getting on target without clear and tangible guidelines from the government, stressing his firm's goal to offer Minden Hills some practical solutions. Council passes a resolution accepting the consultant's report and recommendations.

Head Lake Park to House New Library

The Dysart Planning Committee held a public meeting on Monday night to review several planning matters. Of particular interest was the proposal for the placement of the new library within the boundaries of Head Lake Park. At present the park is zoned as Open Space, and the by-law under review, once passed, will amend the zoning for that portion of the park to Open Space 11 Exception Zone. The OS-11 Exception Zone allows such things as a museum or public library within its permitted uses. The portion of the park being rezoned will also encompass the 4C's building and the Rails End Gallery. Planner Pat Martin reported that the Municipality had received one written response to the posted notices of the proposed change. The author simply wanted the park to be left as park without further development. A number of people were in attendance to find out exactly what was being planned, the area of the park being proposed and how it might impact the use of the park.

The new library is slated for construction in the northeast corner of the park, just west of the existing skateboard park. Chairing the meeting, Reeve Murray Fearrey stressed the need to build a new library given the high cost of moving or upgrading the existing one. Fearrey said that the old building will be maintained for other uses. He spoke of Council's goal to enhance and strengthen the area. He also reported that, when they proceed with the project, the skateboard park would have to be relocated. Several suggestions for its location were discussed briefly. Reeve Fearrey suggested there was a move afoot to increase recreational opportunities, and the placement of the skateboard park could be part of those discussions. He also commented that the library had been designed to allow additions for other uses in the future.

In response to questions about the timing of the project, Fearrey said Council is hoping for construction in the fall of 2008, but the project remains dependant on funding approvals. Questions were raised by Jim Frost about the Highland Games and how they would be impacted. According to Frost, the proposed site had been used during the games for various purposes, but primarily for penning sheep used in the Border Collie herding competitions. Frost assured Council that he was supportive of the Library placement and arrangements for the games were still very workable.

Everyone in attendance was supportive of the proposed zoning change and the Committee will recommend approval to Council at their next meeting.

The other item up for review at the meeting was the rezoning of lands belonging to 776999 Ontario Inc. on Indian Point road in Dudley. A request to change the zoning of a parcel presently zoned Rural Type 1 to Rural Residential 10 Exception Zone has been made the company. Paul Wilson was present as the owner's agent, to answer any questions that might arise. However, no concerns were raised and the Committee will recommend approval of the application to Council.

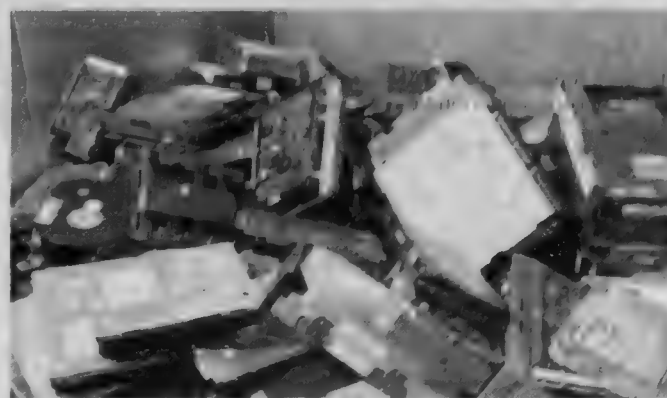
An Offer to Recycle Electronic Trash

Minden Hills

85% of electronic parts can be re-used...

Darko Knezevic of Darko Enterprises Algonquin Highlands approached the Minden Hills Council with a proposal to recycle all of the municipality's electronic trash from the landfill sites. Knezevic assured Council he wasn't looking for money or assistance, simply support for his idea. Knezevic told Council that he had been researching how to sort and ship electronic parts for re-use by various companies. He voiced his concern that with the low cost of many electronics and the tendency by most people to replace rather than repair them, electronic waste was becoming a real issue. His research indicates that 85% of electronic parts can be re-used with the exception of glass, something he is still following up on. Knezevic offered to pick up all electronic waste and supply a trailer at one of the landfills as a drop off point. Council was supportive of the project, but raised several questions.

Councilor Obee commented that he suspected Ministry of the Environment regulations would not allow anything to be taken from the landfill sites. This is something that requires follow up. Another issue raised by Councilor Oyler was Knezevic's zoning status in Algonquin Highlands and whether this sort of operation would be allowed on his property. Knezevic agreed to follow up on this, but said that he was more than willing to acquire properly zoned land to operate his recycling initiative. Council suggested Knezevic approach the County to see about supplying the service to all four municipalities and to approach Algonquin Highlands and the County's Waste Management Committee with his idea. The Waste Management Committee is scheduled to meet in Dysart on March 18th.



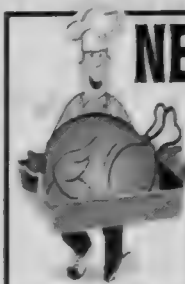
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Stephen Patrick
Editor**Barry Devolin, MP: "Representing my Constituents is the Highest Honour"****Two Decades Negotiating the Winds
of Tory Change**

"Whenever I speak to a Rotary Club I never forget to thank them for an experience they gave me when I was a teenager," says Barry Devolin, Member of Parliament for Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Brock. "I was chosen to be the Haliburton Rotary's Exchange student when I was in high school and spent a year in the Netherlands, and it really was a life-changing event: from that time on I wanted to be involved in some way in government, initially as a diplomat."

Barry was brought up in Haliburton, the son of Doug and June Devolin, both local teachers (Doug was principal of J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary for 25 years). "Politics itself didn't interest me that much, to start with. I grew up with Chris Hodgson, whose family of course had a multi-generational political history here. But I think I can guarantee that no one would have predicted I'd have a political career."

Devolin deliberately chose Carleton University's politics program for his undergraduate career because he thought he might gain an advantage in his quest to be a diplomat by attending an Ottawa University. When still just a freshman he attended a job information session at External Affairs, where he confronted the grim statistics: for every 3000 qualified applicants, fewer than 100 would even get another look. Perhaps equally important, Barry's French was not exactly fluent.

"When I graduated I decided to take postgraduate studies at an American university: I thought that would help me at External in that the U.S. was our major trading partner and represented our most important international connection." Devolin attended the State University of New York at Stony Brook where he completed his Masters in 1987, specializing in the legislative process and American government. While there he also taught undergraduate courses in his specialty.



This experience sharpened Devolin's interest in the actual workings of government, and the subject of democratic reform has been a major interest ever since. But when he returned to Haliburton from the States in the summer of 1987, his more cerebral political interests were immediately replaced by the down and dirty cut and thrust of partisan politics. A provincial election had just been called, and Barry was asked, and agreed, to act as Campaign Manager for the local Progressive Conservative candidate, Wigamog Inn Owner Art Ward. "I'm not sure I really knew what I was doing," says Devolin, "but it taught me a lot about politics at the grass roots level, and about our riding." Art Ward lost as the Liberals claimed their first majority in over 40 years. Devolin decided to get a real job for a while and joined his old friend Chris Hodgson as a real estate agent.

In the early 1990s the NDP had succeeded the Liberals in Queen's Park, the local MPP was NDPer Dennis Drainville, and the Prime Minister was still Brian Mulroney, who at that time was loathed, nationwide.

"I decided there had to be some alternative and I'd been very impressed by the new Reform Party's commitment to democratic change." Within a couple of whirlwind years, Devolin had joined the Reform Party, set up its organization in Haliburton, and won the party's nomination to contest the 1993 federal election. For Conservatives across the country the next 10 years would be deeply divisive: in the 1993 election the Liberals captured Haliburton with just 37% of the vote. Devolin came a strong second with 29%, followed by the Tory, Lorne Chester, at 22% and the NDP in the single digits. A year later Chris Hodgson captured the provincial seat for the Mike Harris Tories in a by-election, drawing on both the Reform and Conservative constituencies. Harris was significantly to the right of the federal Tories, positioning himself as a more Reform-type Conservative: this allowed him to squelch most calls for a provincial Reform Party. So most Haliburton Reformers and Conservatives would work together in one election, then draw back and fight it out in another. And Devolin, it seemed, was able to negotiate these treacherous ideological waters with ease.

Soon Reform Leader Preston Manning appointed Devolin his Director of Research and Question Period Strategist in Ottawa. Reform, fresh off its stunning 1993 electoral tally of 52 seats, was poised to be a major political player. And Barry Devolin was perfectly positioned to implement his two major career disciplines: his academic understanding of the legislative process, and his on-the-ground instinct for political realities. He lasted one year in this intensely demanding job, by all accounts acquitting himself well, but in 1994 Reform decided it wanted the Research office organized differently, which didn't suit Devolin, and he left.

In 1995 the Harris Tories swept the province, and Chris Hodgson became Minister of Natural Resources, Northern Development and Mines. Within weeks he'd appointed Devolin as his Executive Assistant for policy for the Northern Development and Mines portion of the portfolio. "I told Chris I'd stay just a year, because Ursula (his wife of two years) and I wanted to travel. After I'd fulfilled that obligation we moved to South Korea to teach English for a year and a half. When we returned I joined Queen's Park again, this time helping the Conservatives as a strategic planner leading up to the 1999 election. And after that election, I got my old job back at Northern Development with the new minister, Tim Hudak. I'd grown to love the political process, particularly communicating ideas: I loved speech writing - I think it was the best skill I had, the best thing I did."

Like many "small c" conservatives, Devolin was "astonished" at Stephen Harper's ability to unite the two right-of-centre parties in 2003. "I really didn't think it could be done: this was an amazing achievement." A year later Barry was nominated as the Conservative candidate for Haliburton Kawartha Lakes Brock and in the subsequent election he won handily, and was re-elected a year later. He now chairs the Commons Aboriginal Affairs Committee, a post roughly equivalent to a Parliamentary Secretary position and he often represents the government in the Far East. Last week he was in South Korea representing Canada, along with Foreign Affairs Minister Bernier, at the inauguration of that country's new President. His interest in international affairs and diplomacy hasn't really diminished over the years.

Devolin's years of experience in formulating policy and dealing with the convoluted realities of a Conservative's life in the 1990s has undoubtedly helped him greatly to negotiate Harper's Ottawa. "It's a cliché, I know, but it's really true, that when you're elected you're immediately the representative of all your constituents, friend and foe alike. This riding has a long tradition of non-partisan representation in both Ottawa and Queen's Park. That's one reason why I allocated more of my office funds for staff in the riding, and less for my Parliamentary Office."

Thus far Devolin has negotiated his way through Ottawa with a sure hand, taking care not to appear overly partisan, or ideologically driven. He's a religious man, but never flaunts it: "I am who I am, obviously," he says, "but you know, what this job comes down to is providing service to your constituents, helping the Municipalities and schools to achieve their goals, making sure people get their passports. I represent all parts of the riding, and people of all faiths. And that's that. My priorities are straightforward: first, my family, then my riding, and finally Ottawa. And that's not going to change."

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Burnt River Bridge Estimates Higher Than Expected

When the Dysart Council first considered construction of the Burnt River bridge project estimates indicated that the project cost might be as high as \$625,000. That estimate was to include the costs of engineering and project supervision. Six tenders were opened on Monday afternoon and they came as a bit of a surprise. Sounding somewhat let down, Reeve Murray Fearrey advised Council that the lowest bid received came in at \$799,000 from Royal Paving in Lindsay. And that doesn't take any additional costs into consideration. Obviously a bit more than anyone expected for a one lane bridge. Two of the bids received were in excess of one million dollars. The overall opinion of Council is that the high cost may be due to construction taking place over what is considered a navigable waterway. Council is now in a position of having to go back to the drawing board. Fearrey said they must look at the Roads budget overall and, disappointing as it may be, consider cutting one of the other capital projects. Reeve Fearrey also said he would like to sit down with the low bidder to determine if there is any way to reduce the cost of the project. He also commented that this is an indication of the accuracy of the estimates included in the Roads Needs Study that was completed on the Municipality's behalf. The project and how Council should proceed will be discussed at their meeting on Monday, March 10th.

Dysart et al Provides Building Services to Highlands East

On the heels of the unexpected termination of their Chief Building Official, the Highlands East Council was left in a bit of quandary. How were they going to ensure that their day to day business carries on in that department? So, even though Council met last Thursday to conduct a Fire Department review, they did have one last bit of unrelated business. Council passed a resolution authorizing an agreement with Dysart et al. The resolution formalized discussions held with Dysart requesting the services of their Chief Building Official and Building Inspector on an as needed basis. What's being proposed between the two Municipalities is a contractual agreement that remains in place until Highlands East has successfully completed their recruitment process and has their CBO in place. On Monday Dysart Council reviewed the request and, after reaching an agreement with their own staff, gave it the official stamp of approval. However, the decision wasn't made without some concern being raised about the possibility that their building season could be adversely affected. In order to ensure no interruption of service Dysart Council limited the agreement to a two month period. Services will be provided on a cost plus basis until the end of April.

Dysart Council's Budget Deliberations Continue

Dysart et al's Council met on Monday to continue their budget review. Council continued their efforts to pare down each department as much as they can and worked toward finalizing much of the budget for 2008. Fire Chief Miles Maughan presented his budget for Council to consider. At present it looks like there will be a slight increase to the department's budget, primarily due to the increased cost of materials, supplies and equipment. The big ticket item on his budget is the new tanker truck under consideration. Maughan has prepared detailed specification sheets in preparation for the tender process. The estimated cost for the truck is \$180,000 which while coming out of municipal reserves, will still have to be amortized or paid back to reserves over a 10 year period. Things to be noted; delivery of the truck once tenders are accepted can take as long as 8 months and Council will be considering buying a second truck within the next two years. In the meantime, Maughan will be speaking with the members of the Fire Department about specifications for the tanker. The final decision on the purchase will be made by Council at their first meeting in April.

While Maughan was present, Council discussed a number of other operational issues. Council has budgeted \$15,000 to continue with tree trimming, mostly in Head Lake Park. These funds come out of the parks capital reserve. Maughan, as the Operations Manager, will be requesting quotations for the work to ensure that costs remain within budget. New picnic tables will also be ordered for the park but for anyone who has nefarious intentions, plans are in place to have them anchored. An additional \$32,000 has also been budgeted to contract the services of Hawkeye to handle problems with geese.

Discussions were also finalized on a number of items in the budget including landfills & recycling, the cemetery, the medical centre, arena, curling club, information centre and library. Reeve Murray Fearrey commented on the increased fees for the landfill sites and recycling. The overall budget in this department has increased by 50% from \$500,000 to \$750,000 mainly due to environmental requirements.

During discussions on requests for municipal funding Council approved \$10,000 towards capital improvements at the Museum and \$55,000 to the Rails End Gallery. Council agreed to hold off on further discussions about allocations to the Library until they get a response on their funding application for the new library. They'll find out if they're successful in their bid for funding by the end of the month. Reeve Fearrey wrapped up the budget discussions with a few closing remarks. Two or three adjustments are being proposed to the Roads Department budget which is yet to be finalized. Approximately \$100,000 has been budgeted for police services. Finally, the overall budget right now represents an increase of approximately 12%. Fearrey said there are still a few unknowns that must be resolved before the budget can be finalized, but Council plans to do everything they can to try to ensure the increase is no higher than 8%.

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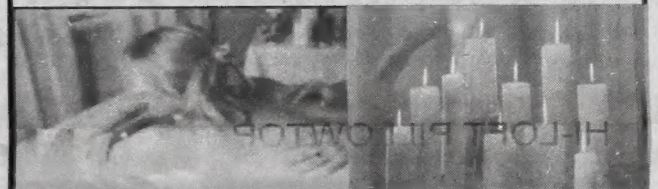
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Photos By:
Lyn Winans

Nobody had to teach old dogs new tricks! OPP / MNR Play Haliburton Old-Timer Huskies For Charity

Saturday evening at the Minden Arena, the spectators and members of the OPP/MNR team soon discovered that the Huskies Old-Timers hadn't forgotten their stuff.

The pre-game anthem, beautifully sung by Kelsey Crowe of Minden, gave the game a hint of big league flavour.

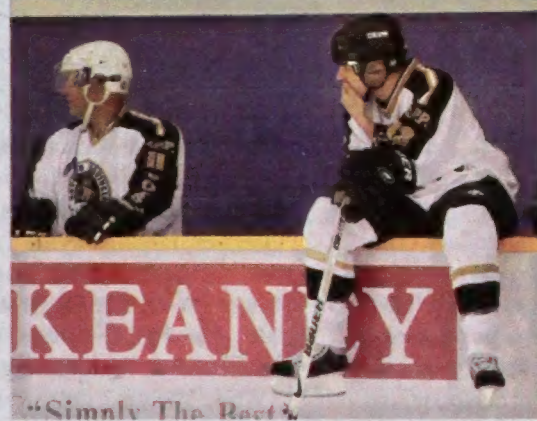
flavour.

Despite being outnumbered and having to break through an impenetrable yellow OPP ribbon, the veterans managed to hold the game to a 9-9 tie.

The fans enjoyed good old-fashioned hockey with lots of scoring, passing and skating. According to the official score-sheet, Sandy Adams, the OPP's secret weapon, scored the tying goal and saved the OPP/MNR from almost imminent humiliation. The lone penalty recorded was to Bev Hicks of the Huskies for

"crossing the yellow ribbon", apparently a new rule implemented in Haliburton County. The ref took him to jail.

All the great hockey, and raffles prizes donated by local businesses were to assist the Children's Learning Centre in Minden.



Pictured: Bottom Left the Old-Timer Huskies Team
Right: The OPP/MNR Team



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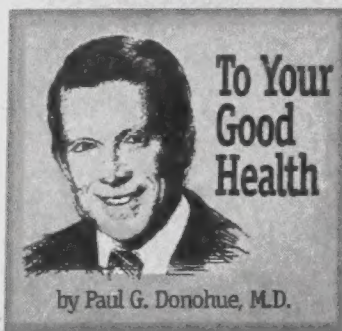
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Early Breast Cancer Optimism Justified

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have never seen you address ductal carcinoma, in situ, of the breast. My daughter, 46, has it and just had a second

incision to get clean borders. I am optimistic about my daughter's recovery. She is scheduled for radiation. The cancer was missed on mammograms but was picked up on an MRI.

There is no cancer history in our family. I wonder, since this cancer was in place and had not spread, if she needed to have surgery and go through all this. Any light you can shed will be appreciated. -- M.N.

ANSWER: Body cells sit on a thin floor called the basement membrane. An "in situ" (in place) cancer is one where the cancer cells have not penetrated the basement membrane. It's a very superficial cancer, one that has not invaded adjacent tissues or cells. An in situ cancer has the greatest chance for complete cure. Such a cancer is an early cancer. You have every right to be optimistic. Ductal breast cancer (carcinoma) is one that arises in the breast's milk ducts. Your daughter needed all the treatment she got. Ductal cancer can infiltrate neighboring tissue and can spread to distant sites. Your daughter's cancer was caught before this happened. Without the treatment she got and is getting, her ductal breast cancer could have been lethal.

The booklet on breast cancer gives a comprehensive coverage of this topic. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue -- No. 1101W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I would like to know why you lose flesh with age, but not bone, nor skin nor fat. One doctor told me that's why people get colder when they get older. I am rapidly losing flesh. -- L.J.

ANSWER: People lose muscle with age. The process is called sarcopenia (SAHR-coe-PEA-knee-uh). I never thought of it until you brought it up, but it could be a reason why older people chill quickly. Muscles generate heat, and they serve as insulation. Shivering is a response to a cold environment. Shivering muscles give off heat. Lots of unpleasant things happen with aging. Metabolism slows, and that's another reason why older people complain of the cold. Our bodies don't repair themselves as well as they did when we were young. Bones do lose strength and size with age. Growing old is not for the faint of heart.

Sarcopenia and bone loss can be kept to a minimum and possibly reversed if people exercise. The kind of exercise they must do is "resistance" exercise -- lifting weights. It sounds nutty, but it's for real. Weights don't have to be of the same magnitude that people use to prepare for a bodybuilding contest. You can start with one-pound weights and gradually increase the poundage when you become comfortable with that amount of weight.

Help Me, Harlan!



Dear Harlan,
I am close to breaking. My family is pretty close, but my parents try to make us even closer. Trying to pull me in closer is driving me further away. They are extremely controlling people. I know that they have the best intentions, but I'm being smothered. They have to check all my texts, don't like me going out and are judgmental of my friends (and my friends don't drink, do drugs or do anything illegal). I feel so isolated and alone. I stay home every single Friday night. If, on the rare occasion, I do go somewhere, they give me an earful when I get home about how evil my friends are. I usually cry myself to sleep because I feel so caged. I have tried talking to my parents, but they just lecture me again -- it's not worth it. I get so depressed because I want to be able to have fun with friends, but instead I have to stay home. My parents even charter school me because they don't want me to be at school. I turn 18 in two years, but I don't know if I will last that long. My parents insist they will be able to control me even then.

Caged

Dear Caged,

First, you need to reach out to adults at school who will listen (teacher, counselor, coach, etc). They can help you with these feelings of isolation and depression. Next, see that freedom is VERY close -- that's probably why your parents are hanging on so tightly. So work within the system and use activities inside your parents' comfort zone to find more freedom. If they're into religion, join a youth group. If they're into academic achievement, use a math or science club to get out. If they're into the arts, try out for a play or join the band. Your parents know that in 24 months, they'll no longer be able to control you. Telling you they will control you is a desperate attempt to keep control. You're so close to being an independent adult -- closer than when you started reading this reply. Reach out to adults at school who can help you with the depressed and isolated feelings; there are healthy ways to work through this.

Dear Harlan,

I am 50 years old and have been living with my boyfriend for four years now. I love him a lot, but at times I'm not sure, because I want to get married someday and he doesn't. At least, he is in no hurry. We get along great and I know he loves me, but obviously not enough. I don't have the energy to go out looking, and flirt or start dating again. What should I do? He says he will marry me, but the question is when? Disappointed

Dear Disappointed,

If you don't have the energy to find another guy, you probably don't have the energy to plan a wedding, right? So it's better that he doesn't ask you to marry him. But it doesn't look like this guy will be marrying you in the near future. You can try explaining why marriage is important to you (financially, socially, legally, etc.) and see if that sparks some conversation (again, this takes energy). You can even try couples' counseling (again, more energy). Or you can just stay with him and enjoy a warm body and no ring. If you want more, it might take a little bit more effort -- married or not.



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I felt vindicated after reading your response to "Clothes-Minded in Wisconsin" (Dec. 31), who complained that her neighbors' 16-year-old son walks around his house nude. You advised her to put curtains on her window and call before dropping over for a visit.

My neighbor complained that when my 15-year-old son (now 17) changed clothes in his room, she could see through her kitchen window into his bedroom. She told me to tell him not to walk naked in front of his window. I wanted to tell her she should look away if she was offended, but everyone I asked seemed to side with her.

My son's solution? He drew a fig leaf and taped it to his window so her view of his "offensive nudity" would be blocked. I thought it was very creative -- and my neighbor never mentioned it again. -- STILL A GOOD NEIGHBOR

DEAR NEIGHBOR: Thanks for sharing your son's "fruitful" solution. In my reply to "Clothes-Minded," I stated that standards about nudity vary from family to family. And the responses I have received have reflected that. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Americans tend to view nudity as an invitation to sex. It need not be. I lived in Germany for five years. The apartment complex I lived in had a large outdoor pool for use in the summer. People of all ages and backgrounds used it regularly. Few, if any, ever wore a swimsuit. Nobody seemed to care, and there was never any evidence of problem behavior.

I'm not advocating public nudity. However, in certain settings, it is what it is -- natural. -- FRANK IN NAPLES, FLA.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are practicing naturists, and I agree with your response to "Clothes-Minded." You advised her to keep the curtains closed to avoid seeing the boy. Naturists know that we live in a "textile" world, and we respect the rights of those who do not wish to view our nudity and restrict our activity to clothing-optional beaches and resorts. I would advise the woman who wrote you to make her objection known -- anonymously, if speaking up would make her uncomfortable. It is the family's responsibility not to cause offense. -- AU NATUREL IN LOMBARD, ILL.

DEAR ABBY: What made my jaw drop was the neighbor's ability to describe exactly what time of day the young man appears in his kitchen every morning to eat breakfast (naked), and even what programs he watches on TV! Granted, this guy should put on a robe, but Abby -- that woman needs to get a life. -- CANDY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY: As a parent, it bothered me that you didn't contemplate the "other side of the fence." That neighbor should be considered a "peeping mom"! If she knows the young man's routine as well as she seems to, she's been peeping for a while.

Just because they have been neighbors for years and watched their children grow, does not mean she's not guilty of watching a little too closely. My advice to her: Keep your eyes to yourself. -- KIM IN HELENA, ALA.

DEAR ABBY: The circumstances differ, but that letter brought to mind the old story about the woman who called the police because she could see her neighbors in the next apartment building making love. The policeman looked through her window and said, "I can't see a thing." Her reply: "You can if you stand on the bed!" -- MARTIN IN PORT CHARLOTTE, FLA.

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"Buy Local" Campaign Gains Momentum

A group of local farmers, environmentalists, local health unit officials, and interested citizens met on March 3rd to discuss ways of getting local residents and visitors to buy locally grown food. The group is part of a growing movement across North America to encourage local buying rather than having foodstuffs travel thousands of kilometres to the consumer. Included were Andrea Coysh, President of the Haliburton County Farmers Association, Sharon Harrison and Terry Wright of Environment Haliburton, Jean Schlicklin-Tyler of Waverley Brook Farm, Megan Stong and Rosie Cadwell of the Haliburton Health unit, among others. This movement gained national attention when a Vancouver couple, shocked to find that the average food ingredient travels an average of 1500 kilometres to get to your dinner table, lived for a year off locally-produced food. They turned their journey into *The 100-Mile Diet*, a national bestseller and an inspiration to re-think buying habits, encourage community gardens and kitchens and challenge the centralization and corporatization of the food industry.

The organizer of the Haliburton meeting, Sharon Harrison, said: "You would be surprised at the range of food products produced in our County. We have to make our residents aware of what is out there and where it's available". At present, most



local produce can be purchased at the "farm gate" with the exception of the small but successful Kinmount Farmers Market held at the old Kinmount train station every

Saturday from the 24th of May through to Thanksgiving.

Schlicklin-Tyler, who's been promoted community agriculture in Haliburton for many years, said that "It's really exciting to see people come together to talk about these issues and create greater awareness of the issues: take security, for example, which is seldom discussed. Where are we going to get our food if we no longer have transportation, in some crisis, for example?"

The attendees discussed a variety of ways of increasing awareness and getting out the message that buying locally provides not only fresher meats and vegetables, helps the environment by reducing truck shipments but is also good for the economy of Haliburton County. The group wants to encourage more local residents to get involved in food production if only on a part-time basis and to keep more of the grocery dollars staying in the county as a way of generating local wealth. The challenge is to get people to participate and to get those food products to the local consumer conveniently and at a good price. That will be at the top of the group's agenda when it meets again later in the month. In the meantime, a website will soon be on-line that will tell residents where they can buy locally produced food products.

If people are interested in finding out more about this group, please contact Sharon Harrison at dancingwildflower@sympatico.ca.

Have Your Say... VOX POP

What do you
think about
daylight
savings time?



Steve Robertson, Wilberforce – "I think it's great! I find that as the days get brighter, I get up earlier and earlier, especially with the birds singing."



Shel Whitteker, Haliburton – "I love it. It gets you more in the spring mood. This has been a long winter. I like more light. It sucks when you have to go to work in the dark and get back home in the dark."



Judy Russell, Sinch, Haliburton – "It's good because it stays lighter out later, so when you come home you're not getting in after it's dark out."



Dave Harris, Eagle Lake – "It's something that just happens. It doesn't matter to me."



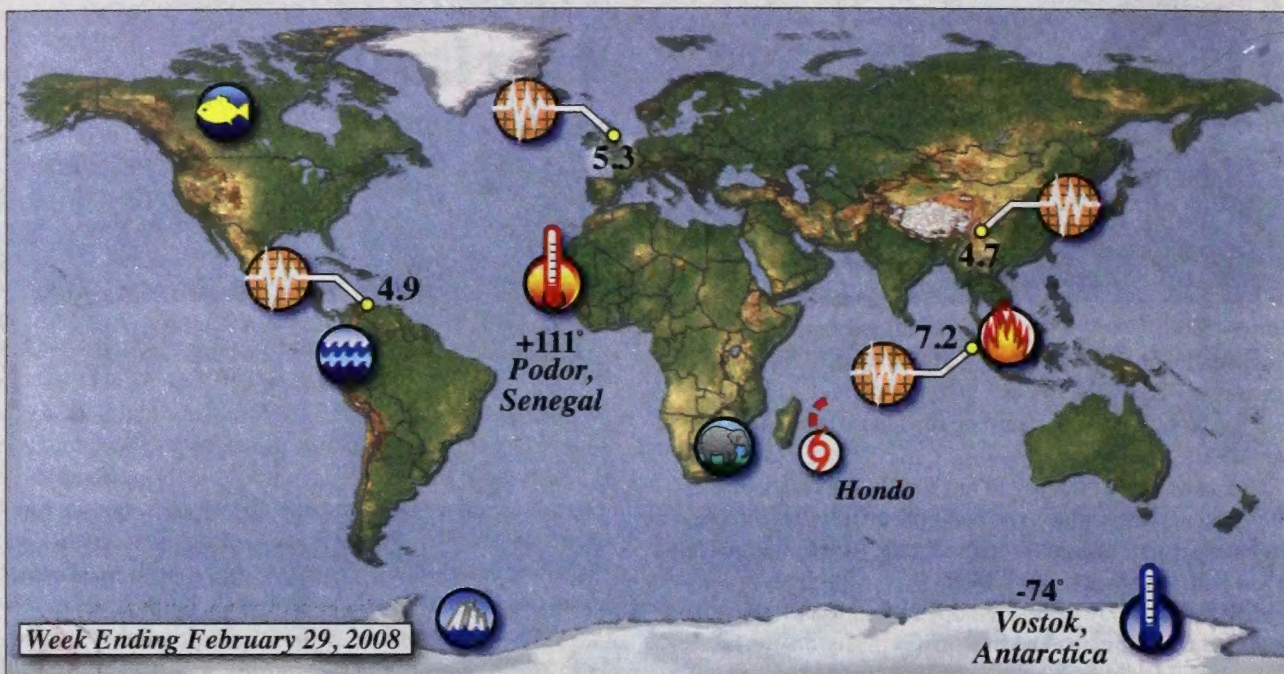
Marty Schuster, Haliburton – "I like it. The sooner we do it the better."



Grete Pohner, Haliburton – "I'm very cautious. Whenever I'm not using the lights, I turn them off. Power is expensive and if we all did that we could save so much."

Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



Glacial Surge

Researchers from the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) say they have discovered that a group of glaciers covering an area the size of Texas has begun to flow into the ocean at an accelerated rate during the past year. They warn that if the trend were to continue, sea level could rise worldwide by nearly 10 inches over a period of several decades. Satellite observation of the West Antarctica glaciers recorded acceleration of about 1 percent per year through the 1990s. But measurements taken by a BAS team show that ice flowing into the ocean has accelerated 7 percent in a single season. One possible cause is that a deep ocean current may be undercutting the ice and lubricating its flow. Another theory is that recently discovered geothermal activity may be melting the base of the ice, helping it slide toward the sea.

Earthquakes

The strongest seismic event to rock the United Kingdom in nearly 25 years caused light damage from Scotland to England's southern coast. One man was injured when a chimney smashed through the roof of his bedroom in South Yorkshire.

• Earth movements were also felt in western Sumatra, southwest China's Sichuan province and northern Venezuela.

Reincarnated Storm

Remnants of former Tropical Cyclone Hondo moved westward over the Indian Ocean, coalescing several days later into a reconstituted storm. Hondo brought heavy rainfall and storm-force winds to Reunion and Mauritius, but caused no significant damage before dissipating a second time.

African Elephant Cull

South African wildlife officials say they will be forced to begin culling the country's elephants later this year as the last available option to control a population expanding out of control. Since a ban on killing the animals was established in 1995, the number of elephants in South Africa has risen from about 8,000 to 18,000. Similar increases have been observed in other parts of southern Africa. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and other environmental groups acknowledge that limited available habitat makes the cull necessary. "We all love our elephants, they are the most charismatic icon of Africa. But we don't have the luxury to allow one species to dominate and alter the composition of our natural assets," said WWF's Rob Little. Since elephants have been observed mourning the loss of family members, wildlife authorities say entire families will be culled together to reduce trauma.

Sumatran Smoke Hazard

The annual pall of smoke from illegal land-clearing fires on Sumatra has spread to neighboring Malaysia and Singapore four months earlier than usual, environmental authorities warned. Officials in Indonesia "know that we are concerned about this, and I hope they do something about it," Singapore's minister for the environment and water resources, Yaacob Ibrahim, told the *Straits Times*. Singapore officials say they have sent satellite images of the Sumatran hotspots to Indonesia in hopes they will extinguish them. Reports from Sumatra say that choking smoke from the flames is also forcing people there to remain indoors. Indonesian meteorologists confirm that a total of 349 hot spots from forest and bush fires were

detected on satellite images during a single day. Thunderstorms were said to have extinguished many of them.

Ecuadorian Inundation

Weeks of ongoing downpours have created the worst flooding disaster to strike Ecuador in a decade. More than 3 million people, a quarter of the population, have been affected, including 265,000 residents who have been forced to evacuate their homes. The EFE news agency reports roads are washed out and electricity and telephone service has been disrupted, leaving some rural areas effectively cut off while parts of several cities are underwater. Bolivia, Peru, Colombia and Argentina have also faced severe flooding in recent weeks.

Meek Inherit the Sea

Industrialized fishing operations worldwide are leaving behind a population of timid fish less able to breed and maintain their habitat, according to a new study by Australian and Canadian researchers. "Fish with bold personalities are more active in finding food and grow fast, but are quickly removed by commercial fishing," said Peter Biro from the University of Technology Sydney. He said that the link between boldness and growth meant that shy, slow-growing fish are the ones being left behind. The scientists simulated an intensive gillnet fishery, where mesh nets are cast over large areas to catch as many fish as possible, in two experimental lakes stocked with rainbow trout in Canada. They say they found the survivors of commercial harvesting tended to be meek, less active and carrying fewer eggs.

Distributed by: Universal Press Syndicate
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